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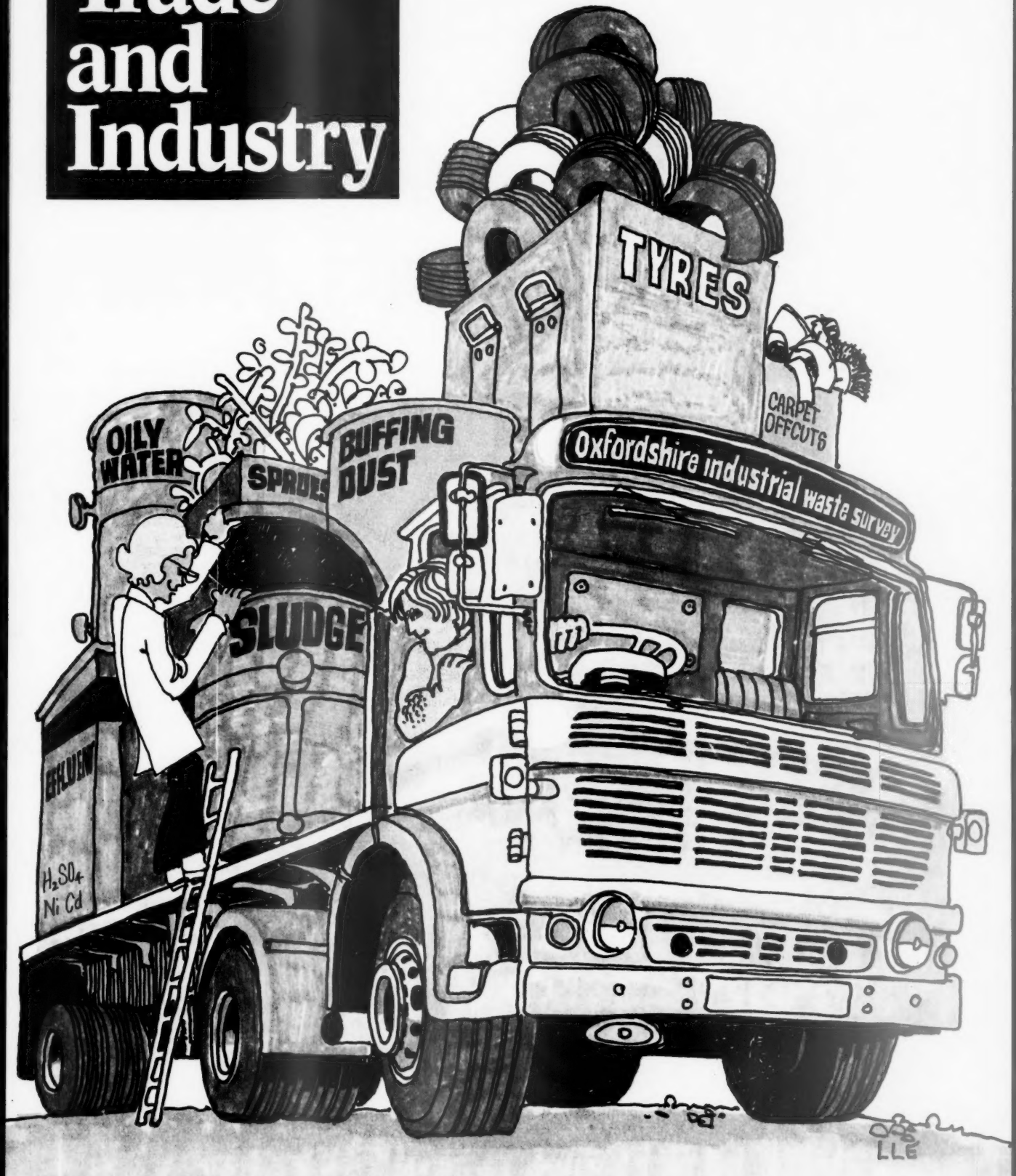

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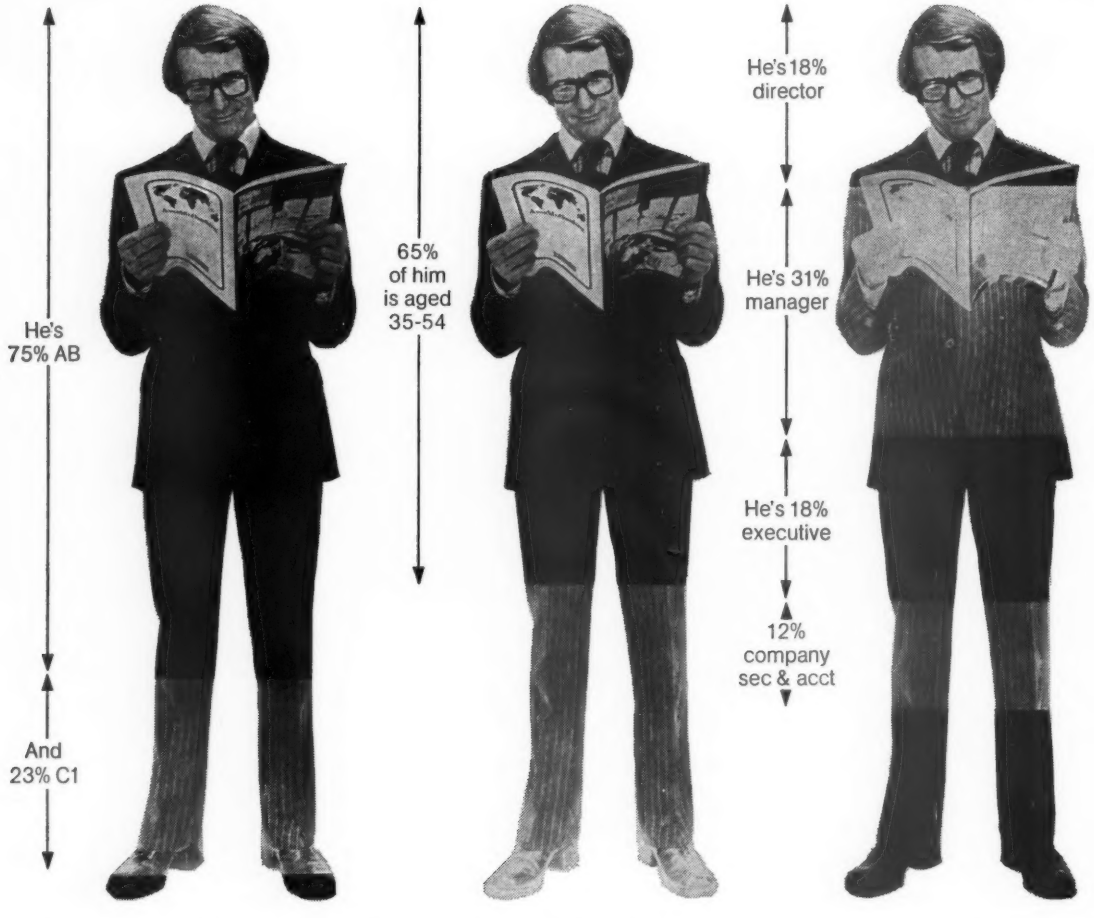

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Trade and Industry

25 July 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Unlike domestic refuse, there have been, up till now, few detailed surveys of industrial waste. In the survey of industrial waste in Oxfordshire, now being carried out at Warren Spring Laboratory, the field work has now been completed. A feature on page 204 describes how the survey was carried out and indicates some cases where reclamation processes are well-established as well as some instances where problems exist.

Trade and Industry

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Editorial address
Room 437, 1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET, Tel: 01-215 5730

Editor:	Alan Williams	01-215 5653
Deputy editor:	C. R. Kabraji	01-215 5654
Features & technology:	R. Stiles	01-215 5656
	Jennifer Clarke	01-215 5074
European Community:	Gillian Samuel	01-215 5620
Art and pictures:	Bob Priestley	01-215 3118
Circulation control:	Christine Swinyard	01-215 5021

Advertisements: T. G. Scott & Son Ltd., 1 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2ED. Tel: 01-242 6264 or 01-405 4743.

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Proposed changes to the Price Code

A Consultative Document was issued on 21 July by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, giving details of the Government's proposals to amend the Price Code in the light of the White Paper 'The Attack on Inflation' (Cmnd. 6151). As stated in paragraph 21 of the White Paper, the main purpose of these changes is to prevent firms which make excessive pay settlements from reflecting these settlements in higher prices.

Inquiries about the Consultative Document can be telephoned to 01-215 5057 or 01-215 5743.

Comments on the proposals should be sent to the Department, to arrive not later than Monday, 28 July, at the following address:

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection,
Room 532B,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.

Local price surveys can boost your budget

'The Government is proposing to accelerate the consumer protection and price information programmes,' Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told a conference organised on 22 July by the National Consumer Council to discuss local price surveys.

The results so far received from surveys organised by consumer groups of the National Federation of Consumer Groups showed that savings of up to 17p in the pound could be achieved, not by shopping around, but simply by choosing the cheapest shop and using own-brands where lower in price.

After briefly discussing the present economic situation, Mr. Maclennan went on to say: 'During these months, when shoppers will be finding it exceedingly difficult to make ends meet, it is of the highest importance that we should offer every possible help to the shopper to make the money available for house-keeping go further. An important way in which help can be provided is by offering better information to the consumer. That is why the Government is proposing to accelerate the consumer protection and price information programmes.

'The success of this effort, to which we are devoting increased Exchequer resources, cannot depend upon central Government alone. It is in the district where the housewife shops that the information is needed. It is local effort and local knowledge which can help the harassed shopper to buy more economically.

'Nearly a quarter of all household expenditure is on food. Last year the average household of two adults and two children spent over £600 on food. If this amount were being spent in one lump sum, the purchase would be made with great care after a lot of thought and probably with expert advice. But it is spread over the year as an everyday routine, often necessarily hurried. There is an understandable tendency to continue to deal with the shop one is used to without knowing what others are offering.

'I believe therefore, that there is often scope for getting better value for money. But it is quite unreasonable to expect shoppers to exhaust themselves and their time by going from shop to shop to find which is offering the goods at the lowest price. I want to get the facts about prices across, wherever possible before the weekend shopping. The savings to be obtained by those who are well-informed in advance of the prices in the local shops may vary from time to time and between one area and another.

Substantial savings possible

'The savings, however, can be substantial. This has been shown with the help of those volunteers of the National Federation of Consumer Groups who are running shopping price surveys under a programme which the DPCP is sponsoring. Results so far show that savings of up to 17p in the pound can be achieved. This can be done simply by choosing the cheapest shop and using own-brands where lower in price, without chasing around from shop to shop. The figures speak for themselves: differences of between 60p and 80p in Glasgow, Southend and Redcar in shopping baskets of goods costing around £4.

'This why I am keen to get regular local price information services introduced in as many shopping centres as possible. A number of local authority Consumer Advice Centres already undertake a price information service and I would like to express my appreciation of the work they are already doing.

'My Department is now discussing with local authority associations ways and means of greatly extending this service. We shall be encouraging local authorities to make weekly price comparisons covering a list of basic foods and household necessities; naming the shops and publishing the information as widely as possible in the locality so that it reaches the shopper in time for the weekly shopping. I want to see regular local surveys of this kind wherever possible but I recognise that local authorities do not have the resources to cover all shopping centres. There will remain plenty of scope for voluntary surveys.'

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Industrial and commercial property

Proper design standards can help save lives

'Standards are essential in helping to prevent accidents from dangerous goods,' said Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

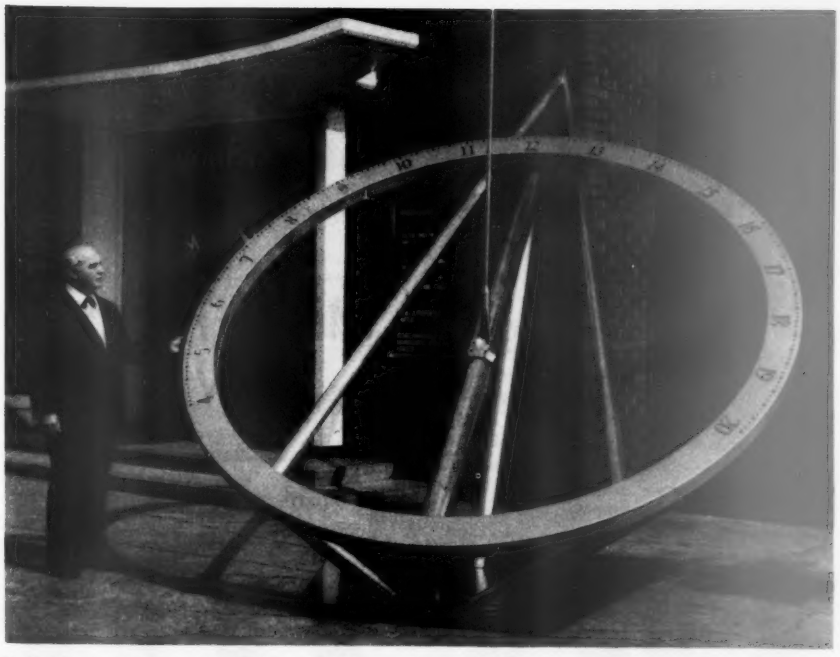
Speaking to the British Standards Institution annual conference on 22 July, Mr. Williams said: 'Children suffocated in self-locking refrigerators or nearly strangled by the draw-cords of anoraks are just two tragic examples which show the importance of ensuring that proper design standards are observed. Part of the work of those drawing up a standard is to identify hazards which would otherwise have been unforeseen. And where foresight has been unable to pin-point all the risks it is imperative that standards should be revised as rapidly as possible to deal with dangers as soon as they come to light. It is because of a recent lucky escape by a child who would otherwise have been hanged by an anorak cord that I have instructed my Department to prepare new regulations.

Systematic approach

'It has been recognised for some time that a more systematic approach to collecting information about product-related accidents is desirable. This would enable those products which feature more regularly in accidents to be identified and priorities to be allocated on a reliable basis. A research programme has been under way for some two years to establish the feasibility of setting up such a system and to determine the best sources of data and methods of collection. Results have been encouraging and further study is in hand, with a view to the possible setting up of a permanent accident-surveillance data collection system in this country based on the casualty units of hospitals.

'Regulations are appropriate to long-term safety measures. But from time to time cases do arise where goods on sale to the general public call for speedy action to be taken. At present we have to rely on the voluntary co-operation of the manufacturer or importer concerned to modify or to withdraw the product. I am considering whether the Consumer Protection Act ought to be strengthened to provide statutory power to deal with this sort of problem.

'One possible solution may be for the Secretary of State to have power to ban the sale of any prescribed class of goods, or goods of a specified description, when this appeared urgently necessary to protect consumers' safety or health, even if no regulations laying down safety requirements for those goods had been made. This will be one of the possibilities on which I shall invite public comment later in the year when I issue a consultative document on the whole safety area covered by my Department. I personally would see a "cease and desist" power to drive dangerous goods off the market, and an information system based on the accident units of hospitals, as invaluable additions to the powers of a Safety Minister.'



T. C. Morss, chairman of Morfax Ltd., Mitcham, scrutinises his company's latest item of precision engineering – a 10 ft. 9 in. diameter stainless steel sundial weighing almost 11 tons – manufactured by the firm for the Royal Greenwich Observatory to mark its tercentenary.

Insurance business annual report published

The Department of Trade's role in helping insurance companies to avoid difficulties in 1974 is described in the Department's Insurance Business Annual Report 1974, published on 22 July.

The report says: 'In those cases where companies were found to be in trouble the Department intervened. In some cases the Secretary of State used his statutory powers but in over 40 cases companies were persuaded to take appropriate action on a non-statutory basis.

'In 25 cases shareholders were ready and able to provide sufficient new capital to rectify the situation and in a limited number of other cases the company was sold to new owners who were prepared to do so. In certain cases these sales took the form of rescue operations in which leading insurance and other companies took part.'

Nevertheless three companies failed during the year – Bastion, Nation Life, and London Indemnity and General.

The report gives a brief account of the exercise by the Department of Trade of its various functions under the Insurance Companies Acts. It includes a complete list of companies and the classes of insurance business each was authorised to carry on in Great Britain at the end of the year.

The Insurance Business Annual Report 1974 is available from HMSO (price 65p, 73p by post).

Conference on energy management in buildings

A conference on Energy Conservation and Energy Management in Buildings arranged jointly by the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the Illuminating Engineering Society, the Institute of Fuel and the Department of Energy is to be held at the Westminster Theatre, London SW1 on 13 and 14 November.

The conference will bring together building services engineers, architects, lighting engineers, fuel technologists and managers, from the United Kingdom and abroad. They will discuss what can and is being done to minimise and economise on energy use in present buildings and how to design new buildings with low energy usage. Emphasis will be placed on papers from industry highlighting some of the energy saving measures that have been taken already. Papers will be given by B. Lubert, chief engineer of Marks and Spencers and J. W. Herbert, manufacturing engineering manager of Perkins Engines, two of the firms that have featured in the Department's industrial case history advertisements.

Aspects of energy conservation that will be discussed at the conference include legislation, lighting provisions, economics, insulation, the energy implications of building shape and energy prospects for the future. Three case studies from abroad include two from the USA and a paper giving Swiss examples of energy saving in existing buildings by M. Caratsch of Sulzer Bros., Winterthur, Switzerland.

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has accepted an invitation to open the conference.

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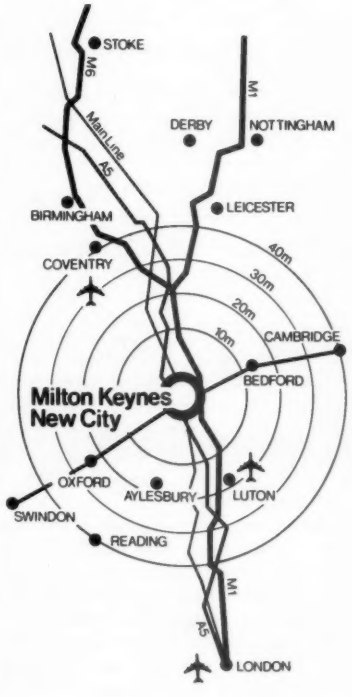

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Milton Keynes (0908) 74000 ext 254

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
1 July 1975		
1,052,480	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to wire wrapping tools
1,053,938	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Improvements in lever operated electrical switches.
1,305,690	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Wound and impregnated cables
1,319,909	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Read only store
1,329,954	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Rectifier assembly
1,158,779	International Standard Electric Corporation	Video amplifier circuit for colour singals and/or chrominance signals
1,161,840	International Standard Electric Corporation	Video amplifier circuit for colour signals and/or chrominance signals
1,168,348	International Standard Electric Corporation	Video amplifier circuit for colour signals and/or chrominance signals
1,228,939	International Standard Electric Corporation	Anodic oxidation of tantalon and niobium
1,333,806	International Standard Electric Corporation	Position-determining system and method
1,354,921	International Standard Electric Corporation	Electrical connecting arrangement
1,357,788	International Standard Electric Corporation	Radio or television receiver cabinet
1,286,438	Creed and Co. Ltd.,	Serial printing mechanism
1,288,537	Creed and Co. Ltd.,	Serial printing mechanism
1,306,010	Creed and Co. Ltd.,	Intermittent drive mechanism
1,289.930	ITT Industries, Inc.	A circuit suitable for use in an oscillator
1,319,187	ITT Industries, Inc.	Electrical component measuring apparatus
1,319,204	Chinoin Gyogyszer-es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara FT	Improvements in penicillin derivatives
1,350,135	Chinoin Gyogyszer-es Vegyeszeti Termekak Gyara FT.	Improvements in penicillin derivatives.
1,360,056	Chinoin Gyogyszer-es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara FT.	Processes for the preparation of derivatives of indolyl-acetic acid
1,235,149	Siemens Aktiengesellschaft	Covers for reinforced concrete pressure vessels
1,279,862	Maschiranfabrik Nemmingen Espanola SA	Flyer spindle for double-twist flyer
7 July 1975		
1,091,441	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to shoe upper conforming machines
1,091,442	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to shoe upper conforming machines
1,296,376	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to shoe manufacture
1,333,202	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to shoe manufacture
1,173,287	Lafarge, formerly known as Ciments Lafarge	Continuous quantitative analysis of an element in a pulverulent mixture, pulp or paste
1,279,556	Potain Poclain Material	Improvements in or relating to load handling machines
1,283,437	Potain Poclain Materiel	Improvements in or relating to load handling machines
1,283,831	Potain Poclain Materiel	Improvements in or relating to telescopic jibs
1,336,809	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in speed limiters for internal combustion engines with controlled coil ignition
1,372,009	Les Cables de Lyon formerly known as Cables de Lyon-Alsacienne-Geoffray Delore	Connecting device for pipelines
1,375,469	Les Cables de Lyon formerly known as Cables de Lyon-Alsacienne-Geoffray Delore	Waveguides
1,379,294	Les Cables de Lyon formerly known as Cables de Lyon-Alsacienne-Geoffray Delore	A method of forming a fluid-tight barrier in an electric cable
1,339,736	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	A colour-photographic silver halide material with improved colour reproduction
1,053,320	Walter Arthur Hastings Forbes	Improvements in or relating to veterinary appliances
1,346,305	Walter Arthur Hastings Forbes	Improvements in or relating to copper bangles
1,110,285	Otto Welger and Helmut Nestler trading as the firm Gebruder Welger	Bale loading implement
1,214,483	Coal Industry (Patents) Limited	Ignition systems for solid fuel fired boiler
1,215,273	Ernest Hilmer Carlson JR	Circuit component
1,217,488	The Furniture Industry Research Association	Treatment of ligno-cellulosic materials to produce a stable colour
1,218,671	Siemco Societe Industrielle d'Emballage et de Conditionenment	Paper and cardboard articles
1,279,513	International Standard Electric Corporation	Method of and circuit arrangement for picture transmission in television telephony

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Jobs boost for Ebbw Vale

Natural Gas Tubes Ltd. are to build a 100,000 sq. ft. factory on a 25-acre site at Tafarnaubach, Ebbw Vale.

Natural Gas Tubes, who already have a small factory in Huntingdon, will build a completely new mill to manufacture longitudinally welded steel tube. It is initially planned to produce tube in the size range two inches to seven inch diameter with application in a wide range of industries including the transport of gas and oil and a range of hollow structural sections for use in the building industry. The major items of plant are being supplied by Abbey Etna of Ohio, USA, a leading manufacturer of pipe and tube mill machinery.

The project is expected to cost some £3½ million and the building work and plant installation are planned for completion by the middle of 1976. Subject to reasonable market conditions the company is confident of achieving a steady build up of production which should lead to the employment of over 100 people within about three years.

New Industrial Adviser at Department of Trade

Brian Nicholls has been appointed as an Industrial Adviser at the Department of Trade, primarily in the field of large overseas projects. Mr. Nicholls is being seconded by Constructors John Brown Ltd., where he has been director of sales and marketing.

Aged 46, Mr. Nicholls is an Economics Graduate of London University, and has also studied at the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Nicholls will be working with the Co-ordinator of Industrial Advisers, Mr. Stephen Baker.

Mr. Nicholls' industrial experience has been in the field of engineering and contracting, particularly in the field of major capital projects. His experience has been centred on exports throughout the world and particularly in the Middle East, South America and North Africa.

Reprints of 'T & I' articles

Reprints of *Trade and Industry* articles should be ordered within one week of publication from: Director of Publications (P1), HMSO, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN. Reprints cost £7 for 250 copies of a page or part-page, plus 50p for each additional 125 copies; carriage extra.

Customs notices of interest to exporters

The following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

7	Drawback on mixed or blended beers when exported or deposited in bonded warehouse.
17 (May 1973)	Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.
49	Temporary importations: international co-operation.
104	Temporary importations and exportations under ATA and ECS Carnets.
112	Authorised hours for Customs work at ports, airports and in long rooms and charges for attendance given at the request of merchants.
112A	Charges for attendance given at private premises at the request of merchants.
118	Samples imported for promoting export trade.
132A	Sugar: cessation of Import Duties and Imposition of Levies under the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC and the Sugar Board Charge.
172	Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of duty.
207	Re-imported goods: relief from Customs duty and Value Added Tax.
210	Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.
221	Process Inwards Relief and Pre-financing of export refunds on products for process.
221A	Section 7 relief: changes in procedure.
221B	Section 7 relief transitional period arrangements: Supplementary procedural changes.
223	Export relief on goods exported in the same state as at import ('Same state section 7 relief').
224	The examination of bottled beer, exported on drawback, at the premises of a licensed brewer for sale, or beer dealer, as an alternative to examination on the quay.
241 (March'75)	European Economic Community: Compensatory, Levy.
275	Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.
290	Export of personal and household effects.
291	Claims for drawback on goods exported where there has been a variation in the duty rate.
300	Export reliefs scheduling scheme.
703	VAT – Exports. (Revised November 1973)
704	VAT – Retail Export Schemes. (Revised November 1973)
705	VAT – Tax free sales of motor vehicles to tourists, etc.
750	Community transit – general.
750A	Community transit – list of Offices of Departure, Transit and Destination and Guarantee Offices in the United Kingdom, etc.
750B	Extension of the Community Transit procedures to Austria and Switzerland.
751	Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3.
751A	Notes on completing Community Transit Movement Certificate.
752	Free circulation of goods in the European Communities.
753	Community transit – the simplified procedure for goods carried by rail
754	Documentation for fish caught by British fishing vessels.
755	Community transit – special control procedures.
756	Instructions on the use of loading lists as descriptive parts of forms T1, T2 or T3.
757	Community transit – Pre-authenticated movement certificate form T3L.
774	Hydrocarbon Oils Customs Duties: Additions of *Ad Valorem* Protective Element.
800	EEC Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds and export licences.
810	EEC Preferences – Free Trade Agreement between the EEC and the EFTA countries.
810A	EEC Preferences – EFTA Countries. Simplification of the documentation system described in Notice 810. Introduction of universal form of movement certificate EUR 1.
812, 812A	EEC Preferences – Turkey.
817 (June 1973)	EEC Preferences – Tunisia
818 (June 1973)	EEC Preferences – Egypt.
819 (May 1973)	EEC Preferences – Cyprus.
821	EEC Preferences – simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.
830	Arrangements between Denmark and United Kingdom.

Range Rover-based ambulance which has been developed for rescue work in Norway's remote mountain areas. The body is a metre longer than standard to provide extra space. Two years of development work by British Leyland with a Norwegian medical equipment company has resulted in an ambulance which meets the strict Norwegian regulations and yet can go where no other ambulance has gone before. Ambulances built on conventional chassis have to keep to well-defined roads and often wait for the snow-plough before attempting to reach an accident to answer an emergency call from a remote household.

Noise measures for Scottish airports

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping announced on 21 July that the British Airports Authority were proposing noise abatement measures for Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen airports. There was therefore no need to designate these airports under Section 29 of the Civil Aviation Act 1971.

Mr. Clinton Davis was answering a written Parliamentary Question from Robin Cook (Edinburgh, Central) who asked if the Secretary of State for Trade had completed the review of whether Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow airports should be designated under Section 29 of the Civil Aviation Act 1971 for the purposes of noise abatement.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The review has been completed after taking account of the views which have been expressed to me by those concerned. The British Airports Authority, who are now the owners and managers of these three airports, are able and willing to bring into operation appropriate noise abatement measures, including the provision of grants for the noise insulation of dwellings. I have, therefore, concluded that, at the present time, there would be no advantage to be gained by the designation of these airports under Section 29. The Authority will, of course, act in co-operation with the Civil Aviation Authority and the airline operators concerned, and will shortly announce the measures they propose to adopt.'

Industrial news pictures

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story.

Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Commonwealth Air Transport Council to hold ninth meeting in Ottawa

The ninth meeting of the Commonwealth Air Transport Council will be held in Ottawa at the Canadian Government Conference Centre from 29 September to 3 October 1975.

Delegates from Commonwealth countries are expected to exchange information and views on a wide range of aviation topics including aviation security measures, noise abatement procedures, developments in navigational aids and aviation safety.

This will be the first meeting of the Council to be held outside the United Kingdom for 25 years and will provide an opportunity for delegates to view recent developments in civil aviation in Canada including the STOL demonstration service between Ottawa and Montreal, the Dash 7 aircraft at de Havilland in Downsview and the official opening of the new Montreal International Airport (Mirabel).

The Commonwealth Air Transport Council was established in 1945 as a consultative body to discuss civil aviation matters of common interest to Commonwealth countries and to advise on such matters referred to it by Commonwealth governments.

The last full meeting of the Council was held in London in 1972.

Air Travel Reserve Fund

Through a misprint on page 66 of *Trade and Industry*, 11 July 1975, the contribution by air travel organisers to the Air Travel Reserve Fund from 1 April next year was given as equivalent to 20 per cent of their turnover. This should have read 2 per cent.

Proposed compensation for electricity and gas price restraint

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has announced the Government's intention to pay compensation to British Gas and to the electricity boards in England and Wales for deficits incurred through price restraint in the financial year 1974/75.

Mr. Benn stated this in a written Parliamentary answer to Mr. William Small (Glasgow Garscadden) who asked: "If the Secretary of State proposes to compensate the British Gas Corporation and electricity boards in England and Wales for losses incurred through price restraint in the financial year 1974/75 and what powers are available to him to do so?"

Mr. Benn replied: 'The British Gas Corporation and electricity boards in England

and Wales have been advised that, subject to the enactment of the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Bill essentially in its present form and Parliamentary approval as provided in Clause 1 of the Bill, I intend to pay compensation for price restraint in respect of the financial year 1974/75 of £42.3 million to the British Gas Corporation and £257.6 million to the electricity boards. These amounts are equal to the audited deficits which will be shown in the published revenue accounts of the bodies concerned.'

Appointment to BSC

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has re-appointed Sir Matthew Stevenson, KCB, CMG, as a part-time member of the British Steel Corporation for a further period of one year from 19 July 1975.

Monopoly reference: copying materials

Following representations from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that their report on the supply of copying materials, including film, sensitised with one or more diazonium compounds could not be made by 15 July 1975, the date specified in the reference, Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has given a direction which allows the Commission an extended period to 15 July 1976 for the purpose of reporting on this reference.

The reference was made on 16 July 1974 by the Director General of Fair Trading under Sections 47, 49 and 50 of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Restriction on insurance company

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has exercised his power under Section 29 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 to require Argonaut Insurance Company to cease taking on new business in Great Britain on or after 23 July 1975.

The requirement also prohibits the variation of existing insurance contracts, being contracts affected in the course of carrying on general business. The requirement does not prevent the company meeting its liabilities under existing insurance policies.

VAT: higher rate schedule: exclusions from 25 per cent rate charge

Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced in the House of Commons on 16 July that he proposes to lay an Order before the House, with effect from 11 August, to exclude from Schedule 7 to the Finance (No. 2) Bill, certain radios of a kind used solely on boats or aircraft; compasses, echo sounders and radar sets for boats; the classification and surveying of aircraft; and goatskin rugs.

John Methven poses five questions for insurance industry

John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, outlined on 16 July, some of the questions which he felt the British insurance industry ought to be considering in reviewing its relationships with its customers.

Speaking at a London colloquium on 'Insurance and the Consumer', organised by the British Insurance Law Association, Mr. Methven said he would like to air very briefly five questions about insurance which occurred to him. They were:

Settlement of claims: 'While the current rate of inflation lasts, the consumer who suffers delay in settlement at the hands of the insurance company risks not only loss of interest but the erosion of his capital. This can be particularly damaging for the consumer in the case of life assurance claims which are held up by probate. Such delays can cost a widow a considerable proportion of the purchasing power which her husband thought he had provided for her. Of course, insurance companies cannot be held responsible for this, but I ask myself whether it is not possible for them to do more in paying fair interest rates for the money which these delays leave in their hands.'

Wording of policies: 'I also ask myself whether enough is done by insurance companies to explain to consumers the terms of their policies, and to word them in language which is easily understood. I see that Lloyd's has announced a new standard form of householder's policy which, we are assured, will be easily readable and readily understandable. I believe this policy is not yet available, but judging by the announcement it must represent a step in the right direction.'

Surrender values: 'I saw a case only the other day where the consumer had been told the surrender values on maturity and during the first two years – which were 100 per cent and nil respectively – but had been given extremely vague information about what would happen if he wanted to surrender his policy in the meantime. As you can imagine, when he came to surrender his policy not long after the expiry of the first two years, he was genuinely appalled at the miniscule proportion of his payments which he was able to retrieve.

'It may be, of course, that the company were unable to give a precise surrender value for these intervening years but they certainly could have done very much more to help the consumer to judge the risk he was taking in committing himself to regular payments over a long period. It is cases like this which make me ask myself whether the companies really try hard enough to place themselves in the position of the average consumer, who knows nothing of insurance jargon. Should companies perhaps undertake some trial runs with panels of genuine consumers to ascertain not whether they like the product, but whether they really understand it.'

Insurance brokers: 'Problems arise for consumers as a result of the activities of insurance brokers. The four major organisations in the broking field are, of course, already helping the Secretary of State for Trade with his review of this field and it may be that much can be done by voluntary means. It remains a fact, however, that given the ease of entry into the broking business and the uneveness of the talent and ability possessed by those who pursue it, there is need for a stricter control. As the Consumer Council pointed out five years ago, there is an untapped demand for genuinely independent consumer advice on insurance matters and the brokers are the only people who have the makings of a position from which to fulfil that demand. It is not easy to claim that they have, in fact, completely fulfilled their role as independent consumer advisors, though this is probably what many consumers assume them to be. What is more, the activities of the fringe have probably damaged the reputation of the majority. However, this situation can be repaired and I am sure the Secretary of State's review will do a great deal to improve matters.'

Complaints: 'We are all aware that the British Insurance Association does a great deal of good work in publicising the industry and in educating the public and I know that if it receives complaints, it handles them conscientiously and thoroughly. The average man in the street does not know about this valuable function and I wonder whether the British Insurance Association could make itself a formal and recognised channel for the receipt of complaints and would be prepared to publicise to the general public that it is willing to receive complaints.

'I feel sure that, as has happened in other consumer areas, a regular flow of the complaints that trouble the public, received and dealt with systematically, would prove of value to the industry.

'Such an input would provide an early warning mechanism to reveal those aspects of insurance operations which worry consumers, and which, therefore, the industry should look at in detail. Not only would this help consumers but it would enable the industry to foster its already favourable image.'

Britain

Regional collaboration in tourism

Britain is enjoying continuing growth in its tourist industry, with record numbers of overseas visitors being welcomed to our islands. The latest figures issued by the Department of Trade, in conjunction with the British Tourist Authority (*Trade and Industry*, 18 July 1975, page 175), show that during the first four months of this year, 1,637,000 foreign visitors (excluding those from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens) arrived in the United Kingdom, a 13 per cent increase over the same period of 1974.

Provisional figures (given in *Economic Trends*) show that expenditure by overseas visitors to Britain in the first quarter of this year was £166 million, exceeding by £43 million the amount spent by Britons abroad during the same period and so making a substantial net contribution to the country's balance of payments position. In the whole of 1974, the spending of overseas visitors to this country was £834 million, substantially more than the £681 million expenditure by Britons abroad.

It was against this background that Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, addressed a meeting of regional tourist board chairmen in Macceslfield last week.

Mr. Deakins said it was the twin objectives of the Government's tourism policy to sustain the existing flows of visitors while at the same time bringing the profits of tourism to new and non-traditional areas. He emphasised that the funds available for assistance to tourist projects were limited, and 'no conceivable redeployment of existing funds would justify spreading this expenditure outside development areas'. Given this limitation, a programme of 'best buys' would have to be prepared – 'best in the rewards they bring for the areas which could benefit; best in the volume of private funds that expenditure of taxpayers' money can attract'.

Because this support from public funds was a pump-priming exercise, Mr. Deakins said that not every likely looking project could be accepted by the regional tourist boards, nor could they be content with a haphazard list of candidates. 'Instead, we are planning to make full use of a combination of local and central initiatives as follows:

'First, we have asked the regional economic planning boards to identify quite quickly, on a fairly broad-brush basis, a smaller number of localities with "fragile" economies within the development areas and to give reasons.

'Second, the English Tourist Board will confirm which of these have genuine tourism potential and, third, whether they think the primary need is for increased marketing or extra facilities or both. Where extra facilities seem to be the answer we hope they will be able to indicate where they contemplate fairly small schemes and where they think there is both need and scope for a bigger project. In both cases we shall need broad indications of the cost, time scale and the potential rewards. If this information can be assembled fairly quickly it will be because the board's process of regional consultation is well established.

'After this preliminary stage has provided an initial list of possibilities will come the really intensive period of regional collaboration.

'There will have to be close examination of the various possibilities; studies of their feasibility; an examination of the financial and managerial back-up available for individual projects; and assessment of how soon profitability can be achieved and how great it will be; decisions on who is to do what. The whole process will be an exciting exercise in collaboration.'

It was emphasised by Mr. Deakins that the Government did not intend that their efforts to spread the benefits of tourism more widely outside the traditional areas, such as London, Oxford or Stratford should take place at the expense of maintaining and increasing the appeal of this country as a whole to the overseas visitor and the holidaymaking Briton alike. But the Minister also said: 'If the financial constraints which we are all facing mean that Government has not been able to find additional finances to boost the development of tourism, the four statutory tourist boards have, nonetheless, responded with remarkable sturdiness to the new objectives set out in the policy guidelines and agreed by selective planning that the same money could be made to go further.'

On finance, Mr. Deakins said that it was for local authorities to decide whether they needed to cut spending on tourism to achieve the overall savings the Government sought to stabilise the country's economy.

'I must also say this. Should individual local authorities nevertheless feel that they cannot do other than reduce or even eliminate money they make available for tourism purposes, including in particular their support for the regional tourist boards, they must face up to the fact that this would mean a reduction in the amount available to support the tourism industry. The Government have done all that they can by maintaining their contribution. They cannot increase it to make good any shortfall by local authorities.'

The four statutory boards are intensifying their efforts to spread tourism both geographically and seasonally, which will not only help to spread the load and benefit more areas of the country, but also extend the capability of Britain's tourist industry. The close dialogue between the statutory boards and the Government and other Government agencies will be maintained and extended, with the aim of developing and implementing a successful national tourism policy.

Liaison machinery between the British Tourist Authority and the three national tourist boards has recently been reshaped in response to Ministerial approaches and the four boards are jointly examining their present activities and services, especially in the fields of publications and research, to ensure that there is no avoidable overlap of functions and to make the maximum use of joint resources. The BTA will increasingly develop specific promotional activities with the tourist trade, both at home and overseas, in order to focus greater marketing attention on selected areas, and overseas promotions will be carried out in full consultation with national boards.

Technology News

Requirements Boards concentrate on commercial R and D benefits

Energy thrift and waste recycling are two features of the work which the Department of Industry's Research and Development Requirements Boards have been undertaking during the past year. This is revealed in their 1974-75 reports published on 21 July.

Lord Beswick, Minister of State, Department of Industry, in his foreword to the report says: 'The boards are now moving from the examination of their inherited R and D programmes towards the development of a strategy for R and D covering each of the industrial sectors for which they are responsible. This is an evolving process and the boards would welcome comment from industry on broad strategic issues.

'I draw attention to the boards' activities in waste recycling and energy thrift which are of current importance. During the year the boards have placed increased emphasis on the need to ensure that adequate steps are taken to transfer the fruits of research into industrial developments.'

The report is the second the boards have produced and covers the period from January 1974 to March 1975. It is printed in a new form for easy reading. Since the 1973 report was published, in June 1974, the Fundamental Standards Requirements Board has been merged with the Metrology and Standards Requirements Board.

The six main boards, which were set up in December 1972, cover major fields of the Department's industrial research work, outside aerospace. They are: chemicals and minerals; computers, systems and electronics, engineering materials; mechanical engineering and machine tools; metrology and standards; ship and marine technology. Sir Ieuan Maddock, Chief Scientist, Department of Industry, chairs a board which deals with areas not covered by the other boards.

Copies of the Research and Development Requirements Boards Reports 1974-75 are available from the Department of Industry's Technology Library, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-211 5221).

Taking care of your plant

Preventive maintenance welding can make machine parts last for up to five times their normal life. To encourage this, the Eutectic company are now inviting entries for their 'Conservationist of the Year 1975' award scheme.

Open to all industrial companies in Britain, entries will be judged by how far technical ingenuity has been applied to the reduction of cost, waste and loss of valuable metals and minerals, in the course of the year.

Sir Leonard Atkinson, Department of Industry Terotechnology Committee, is chairman of the independent panel of judges and entries must be received by the end of September this year.

Last year's 'Conservationist of the Year' award programme revealed that, by the constructive use of preventive maintenance, nine companies had made a net saving of over £600,000 in 12 months. The winners, Hewson and Turrell, submitted nine applications showing a saving of £221,269.

Companies interested in the awards can obtain details and entry forms, without obligation, from 'Conservationist of the Year Award', Eutectic and Castolin Institute, North Feltham Trading Estate, Feltham, Middlesex (tel. 01-890 3680).

Low-cost automation in practice

Lecturers from polytechnics and technical colleges in South East England who are interested in low-cost automation were earlier this month taken on a tour of two factories to see practical applications of low-cost automation techniques. The tour was arranged by the Department of Industry and was accompanied by staff members from Low-Cost Automation Centres, which encourage in industry, particularly among smaller firms, the adoption of low-cost aids and techniques to automation.

The tour followed, and was a result of, a five-day course for updating teachers in LCA which was held at Reading University in April. Factories visited were the Banbury works of Elizabeth Thenen Ltd. and N. C. Joseph Ltd. at Stratford-on-Avon. Elizabeth Thenen, a clothing manufacturer, has made extensive use of LCA devices developed with the support of the Department of Industry and the company's managing director, Peter Smith, was one of the speakers at the Reading University seminar.

At Stratford the lecturers were able to see a new LCA technique whereby an operator assembling components of 'Sona' electric coffee percolators is able to control her own pace of working in the production line, resulting in a high quality of workmanship while at the same time maintaining a high rate of output.

Lecturers from polytechnics and technical colleges in south east England visiting factories to see for themselves practical applications of low-cost automation techniques. Below: Peter Smith (left), managing director of Elizabeth Thenen Ltd., Banbury, demonstrates a modified slitting machine for cutting fabric used in making lingerie. Also in the picture is Milton Lilburne, Director (Industry), for the London and South Eastern Region of the Department of Industry. Right: Clive Wyatt (immediately behind the girl), chief development engineer of N. C. Joseph Ltd., points out details of the new LCA assembling technique being used in the production of coffee percolators.

PETTing strictly encouraged

'In a densely populated industrial society such as ours at least half the working population at all levels must be concerned with technology in one form or another just to maintain our existing quality of life without any hope of improving it.' So stated Professor J. F. Coales, Chairman of the Council of Engineering Institutions, on 18 July at a launching in London of PETT – Project: Engineers and Technologists for Tomorrow.

PETT is the new slogan adopted by the Interdepartmental Committee on Publicity for Engineering and Technology (IDC) in pursuit of its main purpose since it was formed in 1964 – to encourage more of the country's ablest young people to choose engineering or technology as a career. This is being achieved by fostering closer collaboration between Government and all other organisations interested in bringing schools and industry closer together and by improving public understanding of the achievements and importance of the professional engineer and technologist.

There are about 40 members of the Interdepartmental Committee on Publicity for Engineering and Technology drawn from Government Departments, industry (including the Confederation of British Industry and nationalised industries), education and the professions, including the Schools Council, the Council for Science and Technology Institutes and the Design Council.

Professor Coales, during the course of his speech, said: 'The present situation in schools and universities is really frightening. We have barely enough engineers and technologists to maintain our economy at the present level and the numbers opting for science and mathematics in the schools is dwindling rapidly.' He called for a massive campaign to persuade children in primary schools and upwards that a career in science and engineering is not only rewarding, but is of service to society.

The PETT launching meeting, held at the CBI headquarters, was chaired by Mr. R. G. Fall, Chairman of the IDC. Principal speaker was Campbell Adamson, Director-General of the CBI.

Further information on the IDC and its activities can be obtained from: Secretary, Interdepartmental Committee on Publicity for Engineering and Technology, Department of Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-211 4259).

Polarisation image detector

An image display unit which provides a picture of the degree of optical polarisation over a scene or surface has been developed in the Department of Physics at the University of Hull by Professor G. F. J. Garlick, Dr. G. A. Steigmann and Mr. W. E. Lamb. The polarisation image detector (PID) is sensitive to surface structure rather than reflection intensity or colour and so provides a new dimension in remote sensing. The picture produced is independent of normal scene intensities. Possible areas of application include astronomy, meteorology, atmospheric and water pollution detection, geological and archaeological prospecting, medical diagnosis, forensic science, opaque-object microscopy and photoelasticity.

Attached to astronomical telescopes (or satellite borne), the system in a single-tube form could record details of polarisation of, say, the Crab nebula or planetary atmospheres and surfaces. It can see atmospheric pollution or water contamination with high sensitivity.

NRDC would like to hear from companies or other bodies who would be interested in the production of PIDs of the various types. A report has been prepared by the University of Hull, and a demonstration of the equipment could be arranged. Inquiries should be directed to Bob Lane, Scientific Equipment Group, National Research Development Corporation, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL.

Terotechnology in the process industries

A conference entitled 'Terotechnology: Does it work in the Process Industries?' will be held at the University of Durham, 4-5 September 1975.

As its name implies, this Conference is concerned with the specification and design for reliability and maintenance of plant, machinery and equipment in the process industries. It is also concerned with buildings and structures, installation, commissioning, maintenance, modification and replacement and the feedback of information on design, performance and cost. The individual disciplines which comprise terotechnology are not new in themselves, but their use as a team of disciplines will be new to most organisations.

The Conference is sponsored by Process Engineering Group Manufacture and Management Group of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in collaboration with the Committee for Terotechnology of the Department of Industry. It brings together a team of experts who will discuss the following subjects: management aspects, maintenance, organisation and human relations, engineering diagnosis a study of the art/science, vibration monitoring and wear production, oil contamination monitoring, fault analysis in complex plant, an investigation into maintenance management, design procurement and construction of an oil refinery, case study of a complex oil refinery, development of new cleaning techniques for the process industry, terotechnology, how it can work.

The Conference will allow ample time for discussion following the delivery of each paper. For further details please contact the Press and Information Officer, The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London SW1H 9JJ.

Technological Innovation Awards

The first prize of £5,000 for the TDC Technological Innovator Award, sponsored by Technical Development Capital Ltd., has been won by Semitron Ltd. for its 2000 high accuracy miniature sawing system, examples of which have already found a ready market overseas.

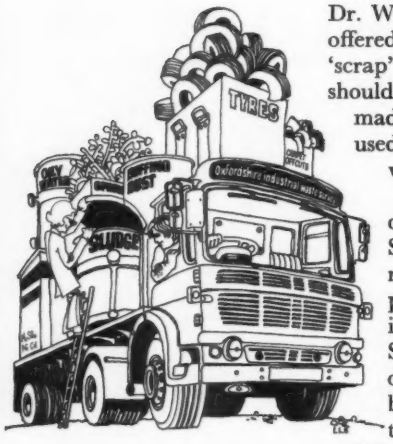
The machine was developed by the company as a more efficient way of cutting silicon slices used in very small electronic components, the firm's main manufacturing activity. With the 2000, a single 2 in. diameter slice of silicon may be made into as many as 2,000 integrated circuit chips. The machine is illustrated here, together with a close-up of the sawing head, which can be fitted with many more of the fine circular blades than the 12 on the head pictured.

Presentation of the prizes was made on 15 July by Sir Frank Schon, Chairman of the National Research Development Corporation who also chaired the small selection panel. Cheques for £2,500 were also presented to two runners-up – Autonnic Ltd. for a car radio push-button tuning mechanism and Greenforge Ltd. for an automatic coal burner for industrial boilers.

The Semitron 2000 miniature sawing system and its sawing head (top), first prize winner of this year's TDC Technological Innovator Award.

Technology

More scrap less waste



Dr. Whalley of Warren Spring Laboratory has offered two slight redefinitions of the words 'scrap' and 'waste'. He suggests that 'scrap' should be confined to cases where some use is made of the materials, and 'waste' should be used (not necessarily as an admonishment) when no such effort is made at present.

Looked at in these terms, there are obvious reasons for trying to reduce waste. Scarcity of resources and the shortage of raw materials, as well as attempts by producers to form cartels, have brought increased prices and rising import bills. Substitutes – new inventions or the development of alternative processes – cannot be relied upon to arrive, conveniently on time.

For these reasons, Warren Spring Laboratory suggested a new project to the Chemical and Mineral Requirement Board. It involved looking at industrial waste in general, to identify areas where new processes should be adopted.

After discussion with the CMRB, the Department of the Environment and the Hazardous Materials Service at Harwell, Oxfordshire was finally chosen as a suitable area for the survey.

It was relatively self-contained, without large quantities of waste being transported to and from the county. The area was covered by one Waste Disposal Authority and there was a wide range of industries.

A further reason for the selection was that it provided a reasonable variety in terms of company size. It was recognised that problems might occur with a large number of low tonnage wastes – simply because small firms lack the resources to invest in waste treatment processes.

Oxfordshire County Council welcomed the idea. At the time they were using domestic tips with a life of only five years and, though more tipping space has since been found, it looked as if new schemes were needed.

Unlike domestic refuse, there have been, up till now, few detailed surveys of industrial waste. To get an overall picture, one of the most important parts of the survey is to determine the quantities and composition of waste generated by different sectors of industry. This will make it possible to decide on whether or not it would be practical to design a centralised waste recovery centre, for treatment, reclamation and disposal, and if so, whether both industrial and domestic waste could be processed by the same sort of plant. A centralised system would lead to economies of scale, and, by bringing wastes together, the energy content of some products could be used to supply power for the processing of potentially reclaimable wastes, or possibly the destruction of hazardous wastes for which no use could be found.

At the same time, various alternatives are being considered including sorting, pyrolysing and incinerating, putting each on a comparable basis by calculating the cost per ton.

How the initial survey was carried out

Even if they could not be completely up to date, the records at the Department of Industry's Regional Office at Reading did provide a list of firms classified by activity and by size. The Standard Industrial Classification with its division into 27 different orders, based on product, offered a sufficiently fine classification of industry for the survey and it was found that minimum list headings gave an unnecessary amount of detail. In some cases wastes from different orders were similar, so it was possible to reduce this number to 21.

Although the number of employees was bound to fluctuate, they nevertheless provided a rough measure of the companies' size. This made it possible to classify manufacturing industry in Oxfordshire according to location, activity and size, while publications such as Kompas, Yellow Pages, and local newspapers covered firms in the distributive trades and service industries, and helped to identify garages, road haulage, contractors, entertainments and hotels.

Of those firms with more than 50 employees, almost all were included in a programme of personal visits; out of a total of nearly 200, 80 per cent of those approached agreed to provide information about their waste products. Of the remaining 20 per cent, some had ceased to trade, some said they produced no waste, and a few refused to co-operate.

For the smaller firms, a postal questionnaire was used. This brought about a 50 per cent response, only half of which contained sufficient quantitative information to be useful. Altogether, information from a total of 282 visits and questionnaires out of a possible total of 700, was used to estimate the total scrap and waste.

During interviews, company details were verified and the latest figure for the number of employees was obtained. Questions were also asked about the product, production rate, raw materials and the rate at which these raw materials were used, though it was not always possible for such detailed information to be

A progress report on the Oxfordshire County Waste Survey
by Jennifer Clarke

given. Process scrap and waste production was then discussed and questions were asked about the type of material, its place in the production process, its composition and the likely contaminants, and the quantity produced per annum. Purchasers of scrap materials for reclamation, and the method of disposal of wastes, were both recorded. In the case of unusually complex mixtures, additional information was required, and questions were asked about materials unique to a particular industry, and any trends which might affect waste production in the future.

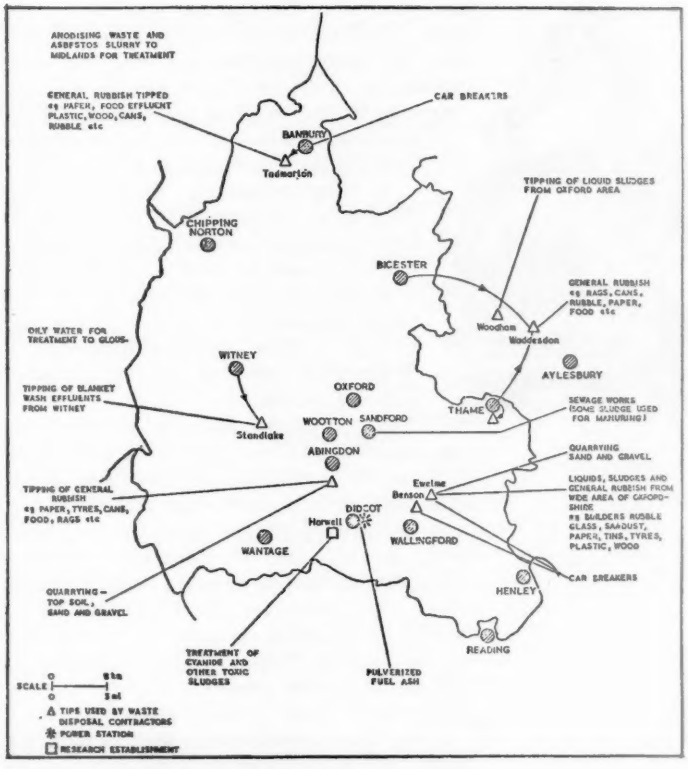
There are some problems when it comes to estimating total scrap and waste from figures of this sort. The number of employees may be the best index of company size, but it is open to the objection that large firms may, for instance, have administration divisions for manufacturing activities outside the study area. The use of manpower varies from firm to firm and there may well be other reasons why there may not be a straightforward correlation between waste production and the number of employees, within a given sector of industry.

Other difficulties are more specific. Waste is often thrown into a skip and described as 'mixed factory rubbish'. The skips may not be full, but the only method of estimating quantity is by the number of skipfuls per week. In an attempt to get some idea of the contents, three main rubbish disposal firms were asked to provide information by weight on skipfuls of various types of waste.

Sometimes waste was discarded without its composition being known. Packaging for instance is comprised of many different types of plastic. Dairies use a solution of sodium hydroxide for cleansing but after rinsing with water, its concentration may be unknown.

Despite these various sources of error, when a cross check was carried out by comparing the total of waste taken away from the waste producers, with information from the waste disposal contractors, the figures agreed within the estimated limits of error.

Changes in the law will mean that more information becomes available. When the Control of Pollution Act 1974 comes into force the waste disposal authorities (the County Councils in most cases) will be committed to producing a detailed picture of their areas. This can then be used to build up a comprehensive study of industrial waste produced throughout the country.

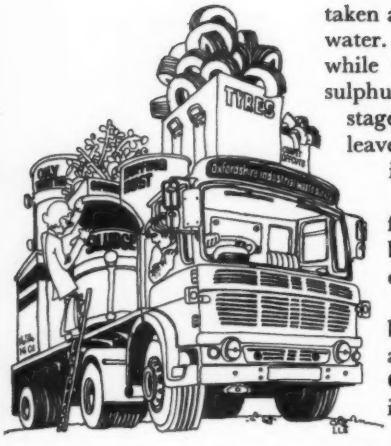


Waste disposal by contractors

Reclamation processes already in existence

Although excluded from the Oxfordshire survey, colliery waste provides an example of a recognised recycling system. If not to reconstitute a phoenix, ashes are at least being put to practical use. They have various civil engineering applications, including road building. Pulverised fuel ash (PFA) from power stations is another example of a widely occurring waste which finds some uses. When mixed with cement it confers additional properties which have advantages in certain situations, for example it was used for the grouting of cracks in the masonry of Norwich Cathedral and, oddly enough, very similar types of cement have been found in Roman aqueducts.

There are a number of companies who take used oils from firms in Oxfordshire for recovery. The product is either bought or in some cases



taken away free. The first step is to remove the water. Solid matter is separated by filtration while the spent additives are removed using sulphuric acid. Active clay is used in the final stage to remove residual impurities, and this leaves a product which can be sold for blending into oils for a variety of uses.

A simpler process used by some firms removes water and solid particles by filtering and centrifuging to produce oils which can be used in blends as fuel.

A few years ago a lot more oil was being dumped. Now, with prices as high as 10p a gallon for large quantities, in Oxfordshire, nearly 90 per cent of used oil is being reclaimed.

In the blanket industry, whether using wool or artificial fibres, most of the offcuts and fluff can be used again. Reclamation is well established and the waste is negligible.

In the case of plastics, provided the sprues (scrap plastic) can be collected in separate containers, so that they remain ready sorted by colour and composition, the offcuts can be put through a grinding machine and remoulded in the factory. There is also a market for segregated plastics, provided they can be kept clean – as for example with polyurethane foam.

Again there is an existing market for industrial paper, such as computer print out and, from the publishing industry, ends of reels. There seems to be no problem provided the paper is high grade.

Even coffee grounds can be reused. After a drying process has removed most of the moisture the spent grounds can be stored and in one case, sold to animal feed blenders.

The same outlets account for much of the scraps from the food industry – a ready receptacle for stale cakes and loaves which have been dropped on the floor and many other examples. Some by-products from breweries are sold in this way and leftovers from the canteen find their way to the pigswill boilers, another well established outlet.

Areas for further study

At present it does not seem to be economical to reclaim oil, if the emulsion contains over 25 per cent water, although there is no lack of technology.

Offcuts of man-made materials, for instance from ladies underwear or sports clothes, are also a problem. In the absence of a market, these have to be dumped.

Similar difficulties arise with non-woven carpets, and with composite materials such as mixtures of plastic, textile and adhesive (as used in the lining for car roofs).

Mixed plastics are also being thrown away, in cases where they cannot easily be segregated into the different types of polymer. Present prices are relevant, since in periods of recession it tends to be more expensive to reclaim polymer than to buy the equivalent new.

Paper which is heavily inked, or contaminated with oil presents a difficulty. One or two large paper mills, in other parts of the country, operate de-inking plants (although magazines are an extra problem because of the staples). In some cases, where confidential paper is involved this may be shredded.

In the engineering industry, some efforts are being made in connection with paint shops. At present, fumes are being burnt, because of the smell, and some consideration is being given as to whether used solvents, such as acetone, can be used for fuelling the incinerator.

Transport problems

Although it has been estimated that about 830 tons of copper are lost in effluents in the UK each year, as well as 1,320 tons of nickel, 340 tons of lead and 220 tons of zinc, these occur, in general, in very dilute solutions and in many different parts of the country.

As a technical term, a 'waste arising' is not an upsurge of rubbish, or sinister feature of the landscape, as some might fear. It has more serious implications. Geographically, it refers to the point from which the waste originates, and in some cases, location is a critical consideration.

It was thought that electro plating shops might produce effluents containing nickel, cadmium, and chromium. In fact the total turned out to be small, representing only a few tons a year of valuable metals.

Nickel plating residues, for instance, are found in a sludge containing 65-70 per cent water. Given the small quantities involved (only about 10 tons a year) it would not be worth the firm's while building plant to concentrate the metal. But if all similar sludges were gathered from different parts of the country, to provide enough for a viable recovery plant, transport costs might be prohibitive.

Copper, for instance, is being used by a company making small electric motors. The

Classification of industry in Oxfordshire

Code	Title	Equivalent SIC (1968)	Examples of products or activities	Specific wastes generated
OX1	Agriculture	I	Farming	paper sacks, plastic sacks, plastic agrochemical containers, polypropylene twine, metal, straw
OX2	Sand and gravel extraction	II	Sand and gravel	silt, transport wastes
OX3	Seed processing and animal feeds	I, III	Cereal and herbage seeds, blended feeds	surplus and spilled seed (some mercury dressed), packaging
OX4	Food and drink	III	Instant coffee, packaged convenience foods, canned and bottled food, beer, milk, yoghurt	spent raw materials, spilled and rejected products, packaging (paper, board, plastic, glass)
OX5	Metal manufacture	VI	Iron castings, aluminium extrusions	foundry sand, slag, anodising wastes, scrap aluminium
OX6	Heavy and light mechanical engineering including vehicles	VII, X, XI, XII	Cars, components for motor industry, cranes, pumps, fans etc	mainly ferrous metal, metal finishing and paint sludge, glue, polymers, packaging
OX7	Instrument and electrical engineering	VIII, IX	Medical and laboratory equipment, switches, transformers	larger proportion of non-ferrous and precious metals, often mixed with polymers and resins
OX8	Textiles and clothing	XIII, XV	Blankets, floor coverings, miscellaneous clothing	natural and artificial fibres, sludges
OX9	Leather and leather goods	XIV	Finished skins	fleshings, trimmings, buffing dust
OX10	Cement and concrete products	XVI	Cement, pre-mixed concrete, concrete blocks	refractory linings, concrete rubble, ferrous metal
OX11	Timber products and furniture	XVII	Doors, window frames, chairs	wood, upholstery materials (textiles and polymer foam)
OX12	Printing, publishing and paper products	XVIII	Quality paper, cardboard boxes, books, magazines, newspapers	paper and board, photographic materials, non-ferrous metal, some plastic
OX13	Polymer products	XIX	Plastic mouldings, fibreglass bodies, adhesive tapes	plastic, packaging
OX14	Construction	XX	Conventional building, pre-cast concrete, wooden and aluminium modular structures	rubble, asbestos, wood, metal
OX15	Transport and vehicles servicing	XXII, XXVI	Road haulage, public transport, garages, and vehicle maintenance workshops	oil, tyres, ferrous metal
OX16	Public utilities and services	XXI, XXII	Gas, water, electricity, GPO, police	miscellaneous
OX17	Wholesale and retail distribution	XXIII	Warehouses, shops, supermarkets	mainly packaging
OX18	Scientific and medical services	XXV	R & D laboratories, medical services	chemicals, miscellaneous
OX19	Miscellaneous services	XXIV, XXV, XXVI	As SIC with exception of vehicle servicing	mainly packaging
OX20	MOD establishments	XXVII	Army and RAF stations	miscellaneous
OX21	Waste disposal and reclamation industries	XXIII	Solid and liquid waste disposal scrap metal, scrap tyres	as OX2

metal, which provides the electrical connection, is moulded on to a Bakelite cylinder.

The armature of the motor consists of copper moulded on to this cylinder. After moulding excess Bakelite is removed by grinding to expose a clean copper surface. This produces a sludge which, when analysed at Warren Spring, proved to consist of lubricant, carborundum, Bakelite and metal. Rather surprisingly it was 60 per cent copper. But the totals involved not more than five tons of copper a year – by itself not worth an expensive plant, and until a sufficient quantity had been accumulated to send away to a secondary copper refiner, storage would be a problem.

Centralised waste recovery centre

As part of the Oxfordshire survey, a paper study has been carried out on the possibility of a central system for treatment, reclamation and disposal.

It has been found that often, solid industrial wastes are not unlike domestic refuse, containing paper, plastic, wood, glass, tin cans, etc. This means that plant for the recovery of domestic refuse could include a significant industrial proportion, and in some ways the latter could be even easier to handle because it contains no putrescibles.

Quite a lot has now been discovered about how such a unit should be run – including its size, and what price you would need to get for the products. If it did not show a profit, it could at least prove comparable to land-fill costs.

If not run continuously, both the size and cost of the plant, to deal with a given quantity of waste, are increased. Although local authorities might show some resistance to manning the centre 24 hours a day, the running of the plant itself could possibly be carried out by private contractors, who might do so on the basis that the local authority would deliver the refuse to the plant for an agreed price. It would then be up to the operator to recover the products and make a profit.

The long term gain might be in terms of conservation, but more will be known when the Oxfordshire survey has been completed.

Parliament

Monday, 14 July

Import surveillance on textiles

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked the Secretary for Trade: 'What is the average length of time taken by his department to provide an import quantity surveillance licence?'

Mr. Deakins answered: 'On average the length of time from receipt of a properly completed application to the despatch of a licence is three working days.'

Mr. Latham also asked why it is necessary to obtain a separate import quantity surveillance licence for textile merchandise imported through UK ports from countries outside the EEC when this information is contained on form C10, a duplicate of which is supplied to the Department of Trade in respect of all UK imports.

'The surveillance arrangements enable us to obtain more detailed information about actual imports than is available from normal sources, and also provide information about importers' forward intentions,' said Mr. Deakins.

Air traffic routes

Mr. Toby Jessel (Twickenham) asked what proportion of flights taking-off along the Mole Valley route from Heathrow on eastbound take-off days during the current 12-month experimental route split are sent along the western limb over Hampton and the eastern limb over Teddington, respectively; and what is the reason for the difference.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'About 30 per cent of the traffic using the Mole Valley route is being directed along the westerly sub-route and about 70 per cent along the easterly sub-route. These proportions are as predicted and, as explained in the consultation document issued by my Department, result from directing aircraft for safety reasons along each sub-route by reference to their ultimate destination.'

Ground proximity warning systems

Dr. Reginald Bennett (Fareham) asked when the Civil Aviation Authority intends to make mandatory the fitting of ground proximity warning systems in airline aircraft.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'The Civil Aviation Authority inform me that they are now considering replies to a letter of consultation on this subject which they circulated in April and that they hope shortly to submit to me amendments to the Air Navigation Order which would have the effect of requiring ground proximity warning systems to be carried by all public transport aircraft exceeding weights of 15,000 kg or carrying 30 passengers. In their consultation letter the Authority indicated an intention to make this requirement mandatory from mid-1976 in respect of turbojet aircraft and from mid-1977 in respect of other aircraft.'

Lead and cadmium in tableware

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, to take steps to limit the lead and cadmium content of vitreous enamel-ware.

Mr. Williams' reply was published in *Trade and Industry* last week, page 130.

Indexation

Mr. Tam Dalyell (West Lothian) inquired about studies being made by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, of systems of indexation.

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'My Department considers carefully the differing techniques of dealing with inflation and its effects, including indexation. But in the Government's view the best way of tackling the problem is along the lines set out in Cmnd 6151, "The Attack on Inflation".'

Department of Industry

Mr. Alexander Fletcher (Edinburgh, North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to publish details of the responsibilities of Ministers within his department.

Mr. Varley gave the following information:

'The Minister of State, the Rt. Hon. Lord Beswick deals with iron and steel; the aircraft and shipbuilding industries; general manufacturing industry (including chemicals and textiles, minerals, metals, electrical engineering, process plant and industrial technologies, mechanical engineering, vehicles computers, systems and electronics, and paper, timber and miscellaneous manufacturing industry); and industrial research and development.

'The Minister of State, Mr. Gregor MacKenzie, deals with the Post Office, regional policy; regional industrial finance, regional industrial distribution; regional development grants; investment grants; regional offices, and small firms.

'The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Gerald Kaufman, deals with the Industry Bill; the National Enterprise Board, and Planning Agreements. Mr. Kaufman also speaks for the Department in the House of Commons on matters for which Lord Beswick has responsibility as Minister of State.'

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to publish the revised work programme for his department in 1975-76.

'I intend to keep Parliament and the public fully informed about the work of the Department of Industry,' said Mr. Varley. 'I see no need for special publication of the Department's work programme at this stage.'

Steel production

Mr. John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) wanted to know the latest estimate, from international sources, of the world tonnage of bulk steel likely to be manufactured in 1975; and how much of this total will be manufactured in the European Economic Community and Great Britain, respectively. He also wanted estimates for 1980 and 1985, compared with the output in 1960, 1965 and 1970, giving percentage growth in each case.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following table giving the required information for 1960, 1965, 1970 and 1974 (the latest year for which figures are available):

	Crude steel production million tonnes				Annual percentage increase		
	1960	1965	1970	1974	1960 to 1965	1965 to 1970	1970 to 1974
World	346	457	596	710	5.7	5.5	4.5
EEC (the Six)	73	86	109	133	3.3	4.9	5.1
UK	24.7	27.5	27.9	22.5	2.2	0.3	−5.2

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Lord Beswick
Gregor MacKenzie
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Gerald Kaufman

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

'As published forecasts of production in 1975 and in the 1980s do not reflect fully the effect of recent substantial economic changes, there would be little value in giving in giving them at this stage,' said Mr. Kaufman.

The Industry Act

Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked for an estimate of the cost to public funds of grants and loans for private industry under Sections 7 and 8 of the Industry Act during 1975-76.

'£99 million and £64 million, respectively,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'These figures include new projects for which estimates provision will be sought later in the year.'

Industrial planning

Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked for a statement of the Government's industrial strategy in which would be set out industrial priorities for different sectors of the economy, the relevance of industries of innovation, such as the electronics industry, marketing forecasts, and the development of five-to-10 year time cycles.

'We have published our general industrial strategy in the White Paper "The Regeneration of British Industry",' answered Mr Kaufman. 'This will be developed further through the medium of Planning Agreements and discussions with industry.'

Mr. Giles Radice (Chester le Street) asked what proposals the Secretary of State for Industry has for the improvement of industrial planning.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The Government attaches great importance to the improvement of industrial planning. The White Paper on the Regeneration of British Industry and the Industry Bill provide for the establishment of new instruments to improve industrial achievement in the UK. In particular, the planning agreements system is designed to improve the quality and effectiveness of industrial planning, by providing a new basis of participation.'

EEC regional development incentives

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) inquired about progress towards the harmonisation of EEC regional development incentives.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'In February 1975 after full consultation with Member Governments the European Commission sent to the Council of Ministers a communication setting out principles for the co-ordination of general regional aid systems. These principles replace those which applied in certain areas of the Community since 1971 and in certain parts of the United Kingdom since 1973. We are satisfied that the new principles allow us to continue to pursue effective policies adjusted to the needs of our various regions.'

Scottish Council (Development and Industry)

Mr. Douglas Crawford (Perth and East Perthshire) asked when, the Secretary of State for Industry next proposes to meet the Scottish Council (Development and Industry).

'My Rt. Hon. Friend has at present no plans to meet the Scottish Council but both My Rt. Hon. and Noble Friend Lord Beswick and I have commitments to meet the Council,' said Mr. Mackenzie. 'No dates have yet been fixed for these engagements. I am of course in Scotland every weekend and often visit industrialists and trades union officials.'

Consett and Stanley

Mr. David Watkins (Consett) asked about expansion to provide for male employment opportunities in Consett and Stanley, Co. Durham, in the current financial year.

Mr. Mackenzie replied: 'North West Durham has Special Development Area status which means that the full range of incentives is available to attract new projects. We shall continue to give the area high priority in our steering efforts.'

Mineral resources in Wales

Mr. Emlyn Hooson (Montgomery) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to report on the exploration programme into mineral resources in Wales undertaken by the Natural Environment Research Council and commenced in 1972.

'The Institute of Geological Sciences publish the results of this programme as the work proceeds,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'Reports have so far been published on surveys carried out in Central Wales and North Wales. The work is continuing.'

Concorde

Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) asked for a statement about Concorde production.

'The manufacturers are continuing with the authorised programme for production of sixteen aircraft,' answered Mr. Varley.

Civil aircraft construction in Europe

Mr. Phillip Whitehead (Derby North) asked what proposals have been put to the Department of Industry regarding the development of the next generation of civil aircraft to be constructed in Europe.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'No specific proposals have been put to HMG but obviously it is sensible to share projects whenever it is mutually advantageous to do so.'

Aircraft manufacturing industry

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked about steps being taken by the Secretary of State for Industry to promote the interests of the British aircraft manufacturing industry.

'We are taking the industry into public ownership at the earliest opportunity, said Mr. Kaufman.

British Leyland

Mr. Toby Jessel asked when the Secretary of State for Industry expects to complete his current negotiations with British Leyland.

Mr. Varley replied: 'I take it that the Hon. Gentleman has in mind the Scheme of Arrangement which is being considered by shareholders and stockholders today. Subject to the necessary approvals I expect that the Scheme will become operative on 11 August.'

Electrically driven cars

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) referred to recent trials of electrically driven cars, and asked if additional resources would be provided to stimulate the development of electrically driven cars and commercial vehicles.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'Electric propulsion is used most commonly in light commercial vehicles. Progress in its wider application could be assisted by the development of improved batteries, and my Department, together with the Department of the Environment, is supporting a substantial programme of research on the sodium sulphur battery.'

Post Office

Mr. Tom King (Bridgwater) inquired about the Post Office report and accounts for the current year.

'I am advised that the Report and Accounts for the financial year 1974/75 should reach me in time for them to be laid before Parliament rises for the Summer Recess,' answered Mr. Mackenzie. 'The Report and Accounts for the current Post Office financial year (1975/1976) will not of course be available until mid-1976.'

Mr. King also asked what evidence there is of the impact on telephone usage of the tariff increases introduced earlier in the year, and how any reduction of telephone usage compares with the assumptions made by the Post Office when proposing the latest increased tariffs.

Mr. Mackenzie answered 'We have spoken with the Post Office, who point out that it is too early to judge the impact of the recent tariff increases. Moreover it is clear that demand for telephone services is also being affected by the state of the economy in general. Subject to these reservations, their judgement is that the impact of the tariff increases has been substantially as was assummed when the increases were proposed.'

Mr. King then asked for the latest figures for reduction in first- and second-class postal traffic as a result of postal price increases made earlier in the year, and also asked what percentage of postal traffic is now first class and what second class.

Mr. Mackenzie said: 'I am advised that over the 14-week period 23 March to 28 June (the latest available date), first class letter traffic has fallen by 26.2 per cent and second class traffic has risen by 11.4 per cent, compared with the same period in 1974. These figures do not include meter traffic.

'I am advised that over the 14 week period from 23rd March to 28 June (the latest

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available date), 40.5 per cent of letter traffic was sent by first class post and 59.5 per cent by second class.'

Consumer Advice Centres

The Baroness Macleod of Borve asked how many Consumer Advice Centres are now in operation in the United Kingdom; how many will be working by the end of 1975; and what the total will be by the end of 1976.

Lord Jacques replied: 'There are at present about 60 consumer advice centres, including mobile units, and there will be 70 by the end of 1975. As part of the programme of consumer protection measures announced in the White Paper "The Attack on Inflation" (Cmnd. 6151) the Government is urgently discussing with the local authorities a plan to increase this number by the end of 1976.'

Post Office deliveries

Viscount Hanworth asked whether HM Government: 'Have considered fully the possibility of making economies in the postal service by reducing the frequency of deliveries to one a day and allowing commercial and other organisations to use a Post Office box number to collect their own mail at more frequent intervals'.

Lord Beswick replied: 'As the Post Office's recently announced proposals for service cuts show, they are acutely conscious of the need to make economies in the postal service. One proposal put to the Post Office Users' National Council is for the complete withdrawal of remaining second deliveries in rural areas. Together with other possibilities, the Post Office will be considering the proposal in the second part of the Noble Lord's Question.'

Seismic exploration of the Continental Shelf

The Earl of Lauderdale asked in which areas of the UK Continental Shelf seismic exploration is being conducted under Government auspices without the help of any of the oil companies.

Lord Balogh, Minister of State, Department of Energy, replied that seismic exploration under Government auspices is being carried out in undesignated areas of the Continental Shelf.

The Earl of Lauderdale also asked when HM Government propose to offer a new round of licences for exploration of the Continental Shelf and in which areas.

'I am not able to say when the next round of offshore licensing will be held or which areas will be offered,' replied Lord Balogh. 'However, I can say that, since the last round was over three years ago, further licensing is being considered, not without a sense of urgency. There are still a number of very attractive areas of the Continental Shelf which should be exploited in accordance with the policies laid down in the White Paper.'

Tuesday, 15 July

Tourist industry

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'If in accordance with the undertaking given by his Parliamentary Secretary, he is meeting people who wish to make representations about the future of the tourist industry; how many people he and his Ministers have met personally; and if they will still hear representations from people in the industry?'

Mr. Shore replied: 'Consultations on tourism matters are normally carried out through the British Tourist Authority and the National Tourist Boards, established under the Development of Tourism Act 1969 to advise on such subjects. Nevertheless, both myself and the other Ministers in my Department are ready, whenever possible, to hear representations from the tourist industry. I have met the Chairman of the four tourist boards, and my Hon. Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary has met the Chairman of the Northumbria Tourist Board. Further on 30 April I attended and spoke at the *Financial Times* seminar on tourism.'

Private direct investment overseas

Mr. Ron Thomas (Bristol North West) asked for an estimate of the total 'current market' value of UK private direct investment overseas.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The information available on the value of UK direct investment overseas, other than oil, banking and insurance, relates only to its book value; the latest estimates were published in the June 1975 issue of the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*. Problems of valuation were discussed in *Trade and Industry* for 15 November 1973 when the detailed figures for 1971 were published; book values are the only values which are easily understood and readily available.'

Independent commercial agents

Mr. Fred Silvester (Manchester, Withington) asked for a list of the organisations which have made representations on the draft proposal for an EEC directive on independent commercial agents.

Mr. Deakins answered that organisations from which views on the draft proposal have been received include:

Air Brokers' Association
Association of British Chambers of Commerce
Association of British Travel Agents
British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association
British Export Houses Association
British Importers' Confederation
City of London Solicitors' Co.
Coffee Trade Association
Confederation of British Industry
Faculty of Advocates
Federation of Commodity Associations
Federation of Wholesale Organisations
General Council of the Bar
Institute of Freight Forwarders
Law Society
Law Society of Scotland
London and National Provision Exchange
Mail Order Traders' Association of Great Britain
Manufacturers' Agents' Association
Milk Marketing Board
Multiple Shops Federation
National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations
Retail Distributors' Association Incorporated
Timber Trade Federation
United Commercial Travellers' Association
United Kingdom Insurance Brokers European Committee

In addition, the Law Commissions have been consulted.

Resale price maintenance

Mr. James Sillars (South Ayrshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to estimate the effect on the general level of prices of household goods and manufactured foods of re-introducing resale price maintenance.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The re-introduction of resale price maintenance would result in many consumers having to pay more for a wide variety of goods and would cause a significant rise in the general level of prices.'

Unsolicited Goods and Services (Amendment) Act

Mr. Keith Stainton (Sudbury and Woodbridge) asked what regulations have been made under the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Amendment) Act to deal with the abuses of false invoices for unordered entries in trade directories (existent and non-existent); and what steps are being taken to ensure that the provisions of these are widely known.

Mr. Williams replied: 'The Unsolicited Goods and Services (Invoices, etc.) Regulations 1975, which were laid before Parliament on 9 May 1975, came into operation on 30 May. Publicity was given to them in the press and on radio at that time, and some trade associations have also drawn their members' attention to them.'

NFU Development Trust and FMC

Mr. Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether she has received the report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed merger between the NFU Development Trust Ltd. and FMC Ltd.

Mr. Williams answered. His reply was published in last week's *Trade and Industry*, page 131.

Software industry

Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, in what form he will publish HM Government's investigation into Great Britain's software industry; and when he expects to do so.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend proposes to publish the essential findings of the Department's study of the British software industry in the journal *Trade and Industry* as soon as discussions with other Government Departments and, through the Computer Services Association, with the industry, are complete.'

Statistical forms

Mr. Nicholas Fairbairn (Kinross and West Perthshire) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to list and specify the number of forms which have been issued to industry since 1 January 1974 for completion and return to his department.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following information in respect of statistical forms issued to industry:

STATISTICAL FORMS ISSUED TO INDUSTRY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

Subject of statistical inquiries	Frequency	No. of forms	No. of forms issued from 1 January 1974 to 30 June 1975
Industries' sales	Quarterly	29,500	177,000
Industries' purchases	Every 3-5 years	24,000	24,000
Census of production (manufacturing)	Annual	36,000	72,000
Census of production (construction)	Annual from 1975	14,400	14,400
Mines and quarries	Annual	4,300	8,600
Building materials (a)	Monthly	450	2,700
	Quarterly	1,200	2,400
Other production and order statistics	Monthly, quarterly and half-yearly	10,100	152,000
Purchases of fuel by large users	Quarterly	800	4,800
Stocks of fuel (b) held by large users	Monthly in winter Quarterly in summer	800	4,800
Standby electricity generating plant	One-off	42,000	42,000
Expenditure on research and development	Every 2 or 3 years first stage	5,000	5,000
	second stage	2,400	—
Manufacturers' capital expenditure	Quarterly	2,500	15,000
Investment intentions	3 times a year	1,900	7,600
Manufacturers' stocks	Quarterly	1,000	6,000
	Monthly	900	16,200
Wholesale prices	Monthly	8,000 (c)	(d)
	Quarterly	3,000 (c)	(d)
Company liquidity	Quarterly	220 (c)	1,300
Overseas transactions	Annual	3,100 (c)	6,200
	Quarterly	750 (c)	(d)
Census of overseas assets	Triennial	6,800 (c)	6,800

(a) Transferred from the Department of Environment to Business Statistics Office at beginning of 1975.
(b) Introduced from November 1974.
(c) Includes forms sent to firms engaged in the distributive and service trades.
(d) A shuttle form is used to collect information: that on prices is generally renewed once every two years; that for quarterly overseas transactions is renewed every year.

Civil servants

Mr. Iain Sproat (Aberdeen South) asked the Secretaries of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, Trade and Industry how many civil servants are employed in their departments; what are the total costs of running the departments for the latest year for which figures are available; and to itemise the main constituent costs.

For the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Mrs. Williams replied: '302 civil servants were employed on 1 April 1975. This figure does not include the staffs of the Metrication Board, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the Office of Fair Trading and the Price Commission.

'The estimates of staff salaries, etc., for 1975-76 published in the Supply Estimates 1975-76 total £1,597,600 – net of appropriation in aid – made up as follows:

	£
Salaries and wages	1,414,000
Travelling and subsistence	69,600
Other general expenses	152,000
	1,635,600
less appropriation in aid	38,000
	1,597,600

For the Department of Trade, Mr. Deakins answered: '7,369 non-industrial and industrial civil servants were employed on 1 April 1975.

'The estimates of staff salaries, etc., for 1975-76 published in the Supply Estimates 1975-76 total £13,818,000 – net of appropriation in aid – made up as follows:

	£
Salaries and wages	31,253,000
Travelling and subsistence	1,055,000
Other general expenses	2,268,000
	34,576,000
less appropriation in aid	20,758,000
Net estimates cost for 1975-76	13,818,000

For the Department of Industry, Mr. Kaufman said: '10,365 non-industrial and industrial civil servants were employed on 1 April 1975.

'The estimates of staff salaries, etc., for 1975-76 published in the Supply Estimates 1975-76 total £34,634,000 net of appropriations in aid – made up as follows:

	£
Salaries and wages	35,528,000
Travelling and subsistence	1,160,000
Other general expenses	4,028,000
	40,716,000
less appropriation in aid	6,082,000
net estimates cost for 1975-76	34,634,000

Merseyside

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked what action is being taken to replace the 52,000 jobs lost on Merseyside between mid-1967 and 1973 and if, in view of the net loss of 52,000 jobs in the main industry group on Merseyside between mid-1967 and mid-1973, the Secretary of State for Industry would take specific action to stimulate investment in the area.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'Merseyside was granted Special Development Area status in August 1974, which means that the full range of regional incentives is available for new projects. The area is also benefiting considerably from the Government's Advance Factory programme; 250,000 sq. ft. of factory space is due to be constructed on Merseyside over the next two years in programmes already announced and the Department has made substantial land purchases for future development. In addition, the Regional Employment Premium was doubled last year and the Industrial Development Certificate control tightened outside the Assisted Areas. Merseyside will also receive some 3,500 jobs from the Government's dispersal plans. When the National Enterprise Board and planning agreements system come into operation, we shall be able to do still more to help.'

Post Office

Mr. Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would seek to amend the Post Office Act 1953, and other legislation as necessary, to allow competition in the delivery of letters and other postal services.

'No,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'To abolish the letter monopoly would enable private operators to cream off the more profitable routes, leaving the Post Office with its obligation to cope with the remainder at disproportionately high cost. The monopoly does not extend to the carriage of parcels.'

Fire-fighting in North Sea

Mr. Keith Stainton (Sudbury and Woodbridge) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, whether he is satisfied with his powers regarding fire risk precautions on North Sea oil offshore production facilities; how many fire-fighting vessels are at present in existence; and how many are contemplated.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'Yes. My Rt. Hon. Friend is satisfied with his powers regarding fire-risk precautions. No purpose-built vessels exist at present for fire-fighting on the very tall installations designed for the northern sector of the North Sea. A large number of vessels is available for fire-fighting in relation to the much lower installations in the southern sector. As explained in my Answer of 12 May to the Hon. Member for Ross and Cromarty, (Mr. J. H. N. Gray), the United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association is actively considering tenders with the object of purchasing as soon as possible five purpose-built vessels for use in the northern sector.'

Mr. Stainton also asked if co-ordination would be sought between all countries with oil and gas territories in the North and Celtic seas in order to economise the provision of a fleet of fire-fighting vessels costing up to £20 million each.

Mr. Smith said: 'The International Conference on Safety and Pollution Safeguards in the Development of North-West European Offshore Mineral Resources held in London in March 1973 set up three working groups in which the United Kingdom is already participating. Group II is concerned with fire-fighting equipment and fire protection. The working groups provide a forum for the exchange of ideas with a view to possible harmonisation of standards. The United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association have also been in touch with operators in other sectors of the North Sea with a view to obtaining their co-operation over plans to purchase fire-fighting vessels for use in the North Sea. I understand that the cost of each vessel under consideration will be considerably less than £20 million.'

Wednesday, 16 July

Oil slicks

Mr. Grimond (Orkney and Zetland) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what consultations take place with which organisations before oil is released at sea for the purpose of experiments in dealing with oil slicks.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'In giving an exemption under Section 23 of The Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971, I require the recipient to consult appropriate organisations including fishery and conservancy interests. Such consultations took

place before the trials on pollution clearance equipment currently being held in the North Sea.'

Concorde

Sir Anthony Royle (Richmond) said that he had received many complaints about the noise casused by Concorde while approaching to land at London Airport, Heathrow, during recent flight tests and asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would make a statement on the conclusions he has reached regarding the noise nuisance caused by this aircraft following these recent tests.

'The recent flights by Concorde at Heathrow were part of the endurance flying programme being carried out this summer', said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Special arrangements have been made to monitor Concorde's noise on take-off and landing. It would be premature to draw conclusions at this stage on the basis of a few flights and when operating procedures designed to minimise noise are still being worked out, but I will publish the results in due course.'

Industrial productivity

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would seek discussions with both sides of industry in the West Midlands following the advice of his department from the West Midlands Economic Planning Council in their document 'Industrial productivity – Scope for Improvement'.

'We shall study this document with interst,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'It is a constant preoccupation of the Government to consider what further steps need to be taken to improve industrial productivity throughout the country.'

Prices of subsidised goods

Mr. James Sillars (South Ayrshire) wanted to know the current expenditure on publicity aimed at informing people of the existence of price range lists covering subsidised goods.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The powers taken in the Prices Act 1974 to require the display of price ranges have not yet been used. As announced in the White Paper on "The Attack on Inflation" the Government is encouraging more work on local price comparisons indicating best value for money. We are consulting local authorities and consumer bodies about this.'

Thursday, 17 July

Tourism policy

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) inquired about the Secretary of State for Trade's review of tourism policy.

Mr. Shore replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friends, the Secretary of State for Wales and the Minister of State for the Scottish Office and I had a valuable discussion with the Chairman of the four statutory tourist boards on 11 June as part of a continuing exchange about the development of their tourism programmes. We noted with satisfaction the increasing number of visitors to Britain. The Government and the Boards will be working together to carry forward the policies contained in the guidelines which I announced in the House on 21 November last.'

Energy audits

Questions were asked by Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) on the cost per man day of the consultancy contracts to carry out energy audits so far awarded; and other quotations per man day, and if the Secretary of State for Industry would seek open competitive tenders before placing the contracts to carry out the recently announced energy audits which his Energy Thrift Unit intend to carry out.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'The Department is developing and carrying out, jointly with with Department of Energy and in association with the CBI, a new form of energy analysis or auditing of industrial processes and products. The precise methods which will be used in these studies are a matter for research, since fuel, materials, and other factors are included, and discussions are taking place both nationally and internationally to obtain agreement on the way the analysis should be performed.

'The Department has selected certain of the Research Associations to perform this task. The Research Associations were established with Government assistance to serve their own industries. They are supported and guided by their industries and have a detailed understanding of their industrial problems. They are directly concerned with the efficiency of industrial processes, including the use of energy, and are in the best position to obtain the required information on process and energy efficiency from their own industries. For these reasons it is not our intention to seek tenders for this work and no quotations have been received.

'The work will be performed by the appropriate Research Associations at their normal rates, and on a non-profit making basis. The contracts will be subject to the normal processes of Government financial audit. Three contracts have been placed so far. It is not possible to provide at this stage estimates of the cost of the work to be carried out by the Associations on the basis of cost per man day. Precise costs have yet to be agreed but are expected to be about £45,000 for each contract.'

Trading losses of nationalised industries

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry for information on the current weekly rate of loss in each of the nationalised industries within his responsibility; and the figures on a daily basis, assuming a five-day week in the particular case of the nationalised shipbuilders, including Harland and Wolff.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'The weekly trading loss made by the British Steel Corporation is currently running at about £5 million. The future movement of this figure will be determined largely by the state of trading. Before taking account of the compensation paid for price restraint under the provisions of the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Act 1974, the Post Office made a loss of £306.7 million in 1974/75. The average weekly loss was £5.9 million. Assuming the current applications for increased tariffs are approved in full, the Post Office does not expect to make a loss in the current financial year. Government-owned shipbuilding companies follow the accounting practices prescribed by the Companies Acts which do not require the compilation of information in the form required.'

Secretary of State for Industry's powers

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would list the statutes under which he has power to issue a specific, as distinct from a general, direction.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend has the power to issue both general and specific directions to the Post Office under the Post Office Act, 1969, and to the British Steel Corporation under the Iron and Steel Acts, 1949, 1967 and 1969.

'In addition, my Rt. Hon. Friend has the power to issue specific directions to the Post Office under Section 3(2) of the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Act, 1974; this power is to be superseded by the provisions of Clause 1(11) of the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Bill, 1975.)

Industrial development certificates

Mr. David Knox (Leek) asked how many industrial development certificates were granted in that part of the Borough of Newcastle under Lyme that was formerly the Kidsgrove Urban District in 1974; and for a comparison with the figure for 1970.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'Comparable IDC statistics for the years requested are available in respect of Employment Office Areas only. The numbers of IDCs issued for the Kidsgrove Employment Office Area were: 1970 – 2, 1974 – 0. The IDC exemption limits were raised in December 1970 and July 1972 and lowered in September 1974.'

Mr. Knox asked a similar question in respect of the Staffordshire Moorlands District in 1974.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'The Employment Office Areas of Biddulph, Cheadle and Leek approximate most closely to the Staffordshire Moorlands District. The numbers of IDCs issued for these areas combined were: 1970 – 12, 1974 – 2. The IDC exemption limits were raised in December 1970 and July 1972 and lowered in September 1974.'

Post Office charges

Mr. Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked to what extent the proposals for containing and reducing inflation would affect the proposals of the Post Office to increase their charges to their customers.

'I have discussed this with the Post Office' said Mr. MacKenzie, 'and they advise me that their proposals, as put to the Price Commission and the Post Office Users' National Council on 10 July, were adjusted to take account of the Chancellor's statement of 1 July.'

'The Attack on Inflation'

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked how the maximum of an extra £6 a week is to be applied to the self-employed whose incomes fluctuate from year to year and those whose incomes for the last

year happen to have been less than in previous years.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The limit of £6 per week laid down in the White Paper 'The Attack on Inflation' is related to the remuneration of employed people. A pay limit is inappropriate for the self-employed since their income derives from prices or charges for services. The self-employed have been subject to the Price Code continuously since its inception; their fees and charges remain subject to the provisions of paragraphs 123 to 126 of the Code which will now be amended to extend additionally to those whose expenses amount to less than 10 per cent of turnover who were exempted from the Code last year.'

Oil slick experiments and birds

The Earl of Kimberly asked whether HM Government would postpone the oil slick control experiments in the North Sea until August; thereby saving the lives of many thousands of newly hatched sea birds.

Lord Beswick replied: 'No. These experiments are part of a series in connection with oil recovery from the surface of the sea, designed to lead to the establishment of a viable system for the collection of oil and to study the behaviour of oil. The greatest possible care is being taken to avoid bird casualties and to date – over half-way through the trial – none has been reported. One purpose of these experiments is to reduce the hazards to sea birds from oil pollution.'

Friday, 18 July

Concorde

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, upon what evidence he bases his hopes that the public money expended on Concorde will be re-couped.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'The extent to which the Government's investment in the production of Concorde will be recovered of course depends on the number sold. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Member for Bristol, South East, has made clear to the House that, over the 16 aircraft currently authorised, the production loss will be substantial; and that none of the expenditure on the development of Concorde will be recovered. This remains the position.'

Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to list the present order book for Concorde, including options to purchase.

'Five aircraft have been ordered by British Airways and four by Air France,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'Negotiations are continuing for the sale of two aircraft to Iranair. Japan Air Lines has renewed its options on three Concordes until the end of 1975 but these do not involve payment of a deposit.'

Mr. McNair-Wilson asked if the first two production Concorde aircraft would be refurbished to airline standards after completion of the present route-proving flights and then offered for sale.

'It is the third and fourth production aircraft which are being used for the programme of endurance flying,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'These will be refurbished to airline standard after the completion of the programme. The first and second production aircraft would require extensive modification in addition to refurbishment before they could be accepted for normal airline service and we have at present no plans to authorise such modifications.'

Industrial development

Mrs. Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked how many industrial development certificates were granted in the Moray and Nairn parliamentary constituency during each of the last five years.

'IDC statistics are not available in respect of parliamentary constituencies,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The numbers of industrial development certificates issued for locations in the employment exchange areas approximating to the Parliamentary Constituency of Moray and Nairn were 1970 – 5; 1971 – 1; 1972 (January-July) – 4. As I said in reply to the Hon. Lady's question on 8 April the IDC control ceased in July 1972 to apply in the Development Areas. These include that part of Scotland in which the Hon. Member's constituency lies.'

BSC employees

Mr. Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked how many persons were employed by the British Steel Corporation at the latest available date and at a similar date in each of the last five years.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following information:

End of March 1975	228,300
1974	220,400
1973	226,600
1972	229,700
1971	252,400
End of September* 1970	259,450

* March 1970 figure not available.

Desalination plant

Mr. Jim Spicer (West Dorset) referred to the prospect of large purchases by Middle East countries of desalination plant and asked if the Government would take steps designed to ensure that the UK maintains its role in this field.

Mr. Deakins said: 'The Government fully appreciates the importance of the major export opportunities for desalination plant in the Middle East and is continuing to support, through ECGD and the other export services of my Department, the efforts of British industry to win this business.'

Chipboard manufacturing industry

Mr. Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked for the latest available figure for the balance of trade of the UK chipboard manufacturing industry.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The crude balance of trade in wood chipboard (ie exports fob minus imports cif) for the first five months of 1975 can be derived from pages IV 44 and VII 34 of the May issue of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom* under headings 4418 0087, 4418 0169 and 4418 0240.'

Working Party on Metrological Control Systems

Mr. John H. Cordle (Bournemouth East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: 'In view of the effect that implementing the studies of the Working Party on Metrological Control Systems may have on the wine and spirit industry, and as the Wine and Spirit Association represents some 85 per cent of all importing, distributing and retailing of wines and spirits in the UK, if she will reconsider her decision to omit them from the Working Party?

Mr. Williams replied: 'I have already assured the Wine and Spirit Association that the Working Party will pay particular attention to the special problems of their trade and will be asking for representations from them at the appropriate time.'

Food subsidies

Mr. Colin Shepherd (Hereford) asked what would be the price at the latest date for which figures are available of a large white loaf of bread, a pound of butter, a pound of cheese and a pint of milk if all the subsidies were removed.

Mr. Maclennan gave the following average retail prices derived from information collected for the purposes of the General Index of Retail Prices.

	Average retail price 13 May 1975	Estimated price if subsidy were removed*
Large white loaf of bread, sliced (1½ lb.)	16.1p	18.6p
1 lb. of butter	30.1p	41.1p
1 lb. of cheese, Cheddar type	42.8p	54.8p
1 pint of milk, pasteurised	6p	8p

*This assumes that if the subsidy were removed the full cost would be passed on to the customer.

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BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Japan in 1985

by E. J. Field, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo

The growth of the Japanese economy over the past 15 to 20 years has been one of the remarkable features of contemporary economic history. The Japanese economy is now so large that increasingly what happens in Japan has a major influence on world trade. If Japan continues to grow at anything approaching its recent rate of expansion, the consequences for both the developing countries and the industrialised countries will be of even greater significance. Consequently crystal-gazing into the future of Japan is an activity which has commanded an increasingly large following. The study commissioned by the Department of Trade and published last year by the *Financial Times* under the title 'Japan in 1980' is one thought-provoking look at the future. In the report the authors foresaw a continuing economic expansion in real terms of 10 per cent until 1980 and, despite the oil shock, which occurred during the preparation of the report, are still prepared to stand by their conclusions.

The Japanese have recently carried out their own similar study, an English summary of which has been issued under the title 'Directions for Japan's Industrial Structure'. The report has been prepared by the Industrial Structure Council, an advisory body to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), and is interesting, not only as an attempt to predict the future but also as an indication of the thinking of some of Japan's influential planners. Two target dates are taken – 1980 and 1985 – and statistical forecasts to both these dates are published in an appendix.

The report, which was published after the oil crisis, makes a more conservative estimate of Japan's economic growth, This not only reflects doubts about Japan's ability to find sufficient raw materials (and in particular energy) at the right prices, but also the growing body of opinion that the time has now come for a slower rate of industrial expansion, with a greater emphasis on improvement of the social environment. The average annual growth rate to 1980 is estimated at 6 per cent, the figure accelerating towards the end of the 1970s to compensate for the current slow growth, with a similar growth rate for the period 1980-85. These figures are predicted on the basis that the rate of inflation will decline considerably, so that the average for the period 1973 to 1980 will be 7.6 per cent per annum, and only 2.2 per cent per annum in the period 1980-85. This would give a GNP of £446,000 million in 1980 and £731,000 million in 1985 (calculated at £1 = Yen 700).

Helping to alleviate the problem of plastics waste disposal is a recent development by the Dainichi Can Co. in Minoda, Konosu City, of combining waste plastics with wood chippings to form synthetic timber.

The authors of the report foresee a move towards creating a better society, and thus expect increased growth and capital expenditure in areas such as housing, medical care, leisure, higher education, and public services, as well as an improvement in diet. At the same time it is recognised that with rapidly rising labour costs, increasing R and D expenditure and the need to control raw material imports, industry should direct its attention to areas of high added value.

Already the Japanese Government has put large sums of money behind the domestic computer industry and supports a number of other major research projects in such fields as aircraft and nuclear power. In line with this development, above-average growth rates are seen for high technology, high quality machinery (both electrical and non-electrical), metal fabrication, construction and services. New technology will also be introduced in such areas as computer-controlled vehicle systems, waste disposal systems, prefabricated housing and medical equipment.

On the environmental side there should be developments in pollution control and new sources of energy such as nuclear and liquefied natural gas (LNG). Re-cycling of used materials is also expected to attract more attention. On the industrial front, plant automation and developments such as the continuous production of steel are singled out for special note. These developments will, of course, produce markets for many new products. Commentators have made various predictions, some of which may well become mass-production items of the future, such as home facsimile receivers, heat insulating materials and battery cars.

Pattern of trade

On the import side the purchase of fuels will increase rapidly but the overall balance between imports of raw materials and manufactured products is not expected to change markedly. At the moment 30.6 per cent of Japan's imports are manufactured goods. By 1980 this percentage will drop to 28.6 per cent but it will increase again to 34.7 per cent by 1985. However, as Japanese industry expands into more technologically-advanced products, it is expected that imports of standard machinery, textiles and basic chemicals will increase. Much of these, of course, will be coming from the developing countries of South East Asia, who will be major customers for Japan's technology and capital goods exports.

At the same time the increasing sophistication of the economy should open up markets for specialised equipment, advanced technology machinery, and consumer goods of high quality and fashionability. It is also expected that considerable amounts of technology will continue to be imported despite growing domestic research, but the authors acknowledge that this will become increasingly hard to achieve. One noteworthy feature is that Japan's visible balance of trade is expected to be firmly in the black with surpluses of $19.7 billion in 1980 and $31.3 billion in 1985.

Numerical control of machine tools has been widely adopted to increase efficiency and productivity in Japanese industry. Shown here are NC-controlled lathes turning out machined components for new generation lathes at the Mizonokuchi plant of the Ikegai Iron Works.

Another noteworthy anticipated trend is the strong expansion of overseas investment. At the moment Japanese investment is low in comparison with other leading industrial countries. But if the rapid rate of increase of the past five years were to continue Japan could overtake the United States by 1985. A straight projection of current growth rates is not likely, and the authors have taken other factors into account in order to scale down their projections. Nonetheless, the following figures have been produced to show Japan as the second largest overseas investor by 1985:

(US $ billion)

	Japan	United States	United Kingdom
1972	6.8	94.0	*25.5
1980	44.9	246.3	43.3
1985	93.4	421.0	67.4

* NB – 22 per cent is in petroleum

Investment overseas will still be largely directed at acquiring raw materials, as it is at the moment. However, high wage costs in Japan, environmental problems and the desire to limit raw material imports will lead to an increase in the overseas manufacture of basic industrial goods such as chemicals, iron and steel, as well as assembly industries such as electronics and automobiles. According to other studies, the bulk of Japanese investment is expected to go to SE Asia (53 per cent): Europe is relatively far down on the list, with only 7.7 per cent.

Implications of expansion

As far as the UK is concerned the projected expansion of the Japanese economy poses a number of challenges. In the first place, the Japanese domestic market will expand considerably and this will offer opportunities to exporters. If Britain retains the 2 per cent share of total Japanese imports, which has been the average over recent years, then her market would be about £1,000 million at current prices in 1980, and £1,600 million in 1985. Again, if Japan develops on the lines envisaged, then UK exporters should be in a relatively favourable position in that her exports are already in areas where growth can be foreseen, namely advanced machinery and high quality consumer products.

Britain's continued success will of course depend on her ability to maintain her own technological development. This will be doubly important, as the Japanese will be increasing their exports of sophisticated machinery to overseas markets, bringing them into direct competition with British exporters in one of their mainstay areas. Already Japanese consumer goods have achieved startling successes in many overseas markets, and this future trend poses a very considerable challenge to British manufacturers.

Japanese investment overseas will be directed to mining and manufacturing and, in mining Japan's great purchasing power could give her an advantage in finding local partners and obtaining concessions. Plant sales, another important British export, could also meet an increasing challenge from Japanese activities. A recent MITI statement revealed that it is their intention to increase the percentage of Japanese plant exports from its present level of 5 per cent of total exports to a figure of approximately 15 to 20 per cent.

Finally the big Japanese trading companies are likely to become increasingly active in cross-trading outside Japan. At the moment the bulk of their business is concerned with the import and export of goods to and from Japan, but many of them plan to expand the percentage of non-Japanese business to 10 per cent or even 20 per cent. With their excellent communications network and financial power they will become major trading competitors, particularly in areas such as SW Asia.

If the authors of the report are right, Japan in 1985 will be an advanced industrial country with a sophisticated manufacturing capacity on the lines of the United States. This development will open up markets not only for cheaper imported goods but also for the sophisticated trade which has developed between industrial countries. Wealthy Japanese consumers will be looking for fashionable, high quality goods, while the investment conscious industry will be looking for the latest in cost-saving equipment. This very development, however, will mean that future Japanese competition in export markets is likely to extend across a much wider range of products, particularly markets for advanced engineering products, than has been the case up until now. More than ever before, what happens in Japan is likely to be of interest to the other industrialised countries of the world.

Addresses of ECGD offices

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a Government Department providing export credit insurance for United Kingdom exporters and insurance against political risks for new investments overseas. Although credit insurance is its main service to exporters the Department offers them a number of others. Firstly the Bank Guarantee scheme, enables exporters who are eligible to obtain export finance from their bank at a special low rate. Major projects carried out by British firms in overseas countries can be financed by the buyer credit technique which gives the exporter the bulk of his payment on shipment of the goods. Similar to this is the line of credit facility which extends the buyer credit principle to include contracts often with an individual value as low as £10,000. ECGD now insures 35 per cent of all UK exports. For full details of all ECGD services contact Publicity Branch, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2 2EL, telephone 01-606 6699 extension 258, telex 883601, or get in touch with one of the offices listed below.

Central London

London, EC1 to EC4, WC1 and 2, W1 and SW1.

D. G. Hake, Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB. Tel. 01-437 2292, Telex 24105.

South London

London SE, SW2–20 and W2–14, Kent, Surrey (excluding the administrative district of Spelthorne), East and West Sussex, the eastern part of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

G. J. A. Link, 320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4XJ. Tel. 01-686 9921. Telex 946998.

North London

London N, NW, E, the southern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Slough, Burnham and Datchet area of Berkshire and the Spelthorne district of Surrey.

C. W. Gentry, 593–599 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6SW. Tel. 01-808 4570. Telex 263615.

Belfast

The six counties of Northern Ireland.

R. H. Forsyth, River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE. Tel. 0232 31743. Telex 74577.

Birmingham

Leicester, Nottinghamshire, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands, the southern part of Derbyshire and that part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Worcestershire.

F. Wilmot, Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB. Tel. 021-233 1771. Telex 33132

Bristol

Dyfed, Powys, Gwent, West, Mid and South Glamorgan, Gloucester, Avon, Wiltshire, Oxon, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. That part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Herefordshire, Berkshire except the Slough, Burnham and Datchet areas and the western part of Hampshire.

K. I. Humphrey, Robinson Building, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP. Tel. 0272 299971. Telex 44248.

Cambridge

Bedfordshire, Cambridge, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Suffolk, the northern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and the southern part of Lincolnshire including the City of Lincoln.

H. Watson, Prudential Building, 59 St. Andrews Street, Cambridge CB2 3HA. Tel. 0223 67736. Telex 81624.

Glasgow

Scotland and the Outer Isles.

F. R. Burge, Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL. Tel. 041-332 8707. Telex 77130.

Leeds

Durham, Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire, Humberside and the northern part of Lincolnshire.

W. Ford, West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AA. Tel. 0532 450631. Telex 55125.

Manchester

Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, the northern part of Derbyshire and Isle of Man.

R. H. K. Hughes, Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ. Tel. 061-228 3621. Telex 667756.

New York

In the United States of America exporters can obtain assistance from the Department's resident Representative for the USA and Canada.

J. K. Sedman c/o British Trade Development Office, 150 East 58th Street, New York 10022 USA. Tel. 212-593 2258. Telex 420543.

BOTB News

Pictured at the 1975 Royal Agricultural Show, with Acthorpe Nelson, supreme champion Lincoln Red, is Dr. Dirceu Pons of Brazil, who owns the world's largest Shorthorn herd – about 8,000 head. He was a member of a group of Brazilian cattle buyers, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Agricultural Export Council, on an inward mission to Britain to inspect British breeds.

Japan: An expanding market for British floor coverings

'The four basic floor covering products used in Japanese homes – carpeting, hardwood, vinyl tile and tatami – will each undergo significant changes in the near future' states the *Japanese Market for Floor Coverings*, a survey published by the British Overseas Trade Board.

The most promising marketing areas seem to be in the designing and marketing of new tile and carpet products, in line with Japanese tastes and housing requirements. These call for products that are warm or retain heat well in winter and yet are cool and comfortable in summer. Colour and style are also areas in which improvements can be made.

According to the survey, carpet sales have grown rapidly in recent years, and are expected to rise during 1975-77 by about 10 per cent a year. The most promising segments of the carpet market are tufted and needle punch carpeting; needle punch is one of the more inexpensive types and is particularly suited to households making the move from tatami to carpets. The share of woollen carpets has increased substantially, from 57 per cent of woven carpets in 1967 to about 70 per cent in recent years. Total carpeting sold in Japan in 1973 amounted to more than 133 million square metres. The total market for hardwood floorings, including both board and plywood types (such as parquet), is about 9.5 million square metres, about one-fourth the size of the tatami market.

The tile market is larger than the tatami market with 52 million square metres of rubber and vinyl tile and approximately 5 million square metres of ceramic tile in 1973.

The survey also shows that growth sales of traditional tatami mats are slower than other types of floor covering and the price of these mats has increased substantially in recent years. Despite the decline in the market share of tatami all new homes have at least one Japanese-style room.

A tatami mat is the traditional type of floor covering in Japan and is made of closely woven rush. It has been used in Japan for centuries and is produced in a single size and shape (normally 90 by 180 centimetres).

In March 1976 the British Overseas Trade Board will be supporting a carpets exhibition in the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo. British manufacturers interested in space at this exhibition should contact: British Carpets Export Association, Dorland House, 14-16 Lower Regent Street, London SW1, tel: 01-930 8711.

The *Japanese Market for Floor Coverings* was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by International Business Information Inc., Tokyo, Japan. It is available to British manufacturers price £1, post free from the Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

British Office for Training Exchange

The Department of Trade has ended its financial support for the British Office for Training Exchange (BOTEX). The Office was set up as a pilot scheme in October 1971 to facilitate the exchange of industrial and commercial trainees between this country and Europe.

The expected demand for these exchanges, tailored to the specific needs of companies, has not, however, materialised either in this country or in Europe in spite of an intensive promotional campaign. The Department has therefore reluctantly concluded that the use of Government funds can no longer be justified.

Nevertheless since a number of companies have expressed interest in the scheme for the future, the British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education (BACIE) has decided to continue the operation of BOTEX on a fee-paying basis, in the first instance for a further year.

BOTEX was set up under the auspices of the British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education following a recommendation of a working party of representatives of Government Departments and industry. The working party reviewed the arrangements in the United Kingdom for the industrial training of overseas nationals from the point of view of the contribution which they could be expected to make to furthering our export trade (*Exports and the industrial training of people from overseas*, HMSO, 1969).

The objective of BOTEX was to provide a new service for British industry and, in particular, exporters by facilitating the exchange of industrial and commercial trainees, aged from 18 to 30 years, between the United Kingdom and Europe.

BOTB promotions, July-September

In the three months July to September the British Overseas Trade Board is supporting over 1,570 British firms at 77 overseas trade fairs in 31 countries. In addition, assistance is being given to 53 outward missions involving over 770 British firms going to 39 countries. Support will also be given in arranging nine retail store promotions and three British Shopping Weeks overseas.

Between January and September 1975 the Board will support over 5,150 firms at 265 overseas trade fairs, compared with 4,789 firms at 241 fairs in the first nine months of 1974 – an increase of 7.5 per cent in the number of firms and nearly 10 per cent in the number of fairs.

Exhibitions and Fairs

Hanover debut of trade fair for pigs and poultry

From R. A. Staples, British Consulate-General, Hanover: The first International Trade Exhibition for Pig and Poultry Production made its debut from 26 to 29 June at Hanover, Lower Saxony, a breakaway from Dortmund, the traditional venue for events of this type.

Organisers were the Deutche Landwirtschaftsgesellschaft EV (DLG) and the Sentralverband Der Deutschen Geflugelwirtschaft (ZDG). British participation was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the British Agricultural Export Council.

The British exhibitors offered a wide range of pig and poultry rearing, breeding and related services, ably supported by a video-audio display unit attended by representatives of the Eggs Authority.

Outside the joint venture stands, a further eight British companies were scattered throughout the three available halls and open areas, the majority in association with their agents or as established independent companies, servicing customers or consolidating business previously achieved.

The exhibition embraced a total display area of 33,000m². There were 93 foreign exhibitors, with an additional 39 foreign represented companies. Among foreign exhibitors British firms took first place with 24 firms. Followed by Holland, with 21, France and Denmark each with 12, while there were six firms from the USA. A total of some 27,000 visitors was recorded in the four days of the event, a figure composed mainly of specialists from the pig and poultry fields.

The British exhibitors were mainly well satisfied with the number of visitors received and many specialist manufacturers saw the event as a meeting place for overseas contacts, particularly with Middle and Near East visitors.

The next International Pig and Poultry Exhibition will be held in Hanover in 1977.

Scientific and biochemical products display in Paris

A group of 11 British firms, supported by the British Overseas Trade Board in collaboration with the British Laboratory Ware Association, exhibited at the 10th International Exhibition and Congress of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS) in Paris from 21-25 July. Some 3,000 expert delegates attended the congress and the exhibition is an important showcase for manufacturers of scientific and biochemical equipment and products.

British exhibits included ultra violet lamps. electropheresis equipment, spectrophotometers, chromatographs, pharmaceutical kits, thermal baths, temperature controllers, peristaltic pumps, photon spectroscopy materials, ultrasonic disintegrators and precision optics.

Leipzig Fair

German Democratic Republic 31 August to 7 September 1975

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Thousands visit Tehran's specialised fair for building and construction

From Mike Webb, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tehran: The first Tehran Construction Exhibition, 'Construction '75', one of a continuing series of specialised exhibitions organised by the Iranian Fairs and Exhibitions Corporation covering a wide range of subjects, took place from 22-27 June at the permanent exhibition site in north Tehran. Over 50 British firms and organisations, including the Building Materials Export Group (joint sponsors with the British Overseas Trade Board, exhibited in the large British pavilion.

Official visitors

The exhibition was opened by the Iranian Minister of Commerce, His Excellency Fereydoun Mahdavi. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, with special responsibilities for housing and construction, Ernest Armstrong, visited Tehran to attend the exhibition. Accompanied by HM Ambassador, Sir Anthony Parsons, he visited the British pavilion and met all the exhibitors.

Other countries officially participating in 'Construction '75' were France and Norway. Local Iranian firms, and companies from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, West Germany and Yugoslavia also took part.

In conjunction with 'Construction '75' there was a conference, opened on 23 June by the Iranian Minister of Housing and Urban Development, HE Jaber Ansari, at which leading personalities and companies in the construction world presented papers. Both Mr. Mahdavi and Mr. Ansari visited the British pavilion.

Sizeable orders

While it is not easy to make an immediate assessment of the value of a specialised exhibition like 'Construction '75', most British exhibitors seemed satisfied and were generally pleased that they had taken part. Some reported sizeable firm orders and many were optimistic about future sales and opportunities in Iran. The Iranian Fairs and Exhibitions Corporation reported total sales in the region of £500 million during the six days of the exhibition. It was encouraging that attendances were higher than for previous specialised exhibitions held in Tehran and many thousands visited the fair grounds during the period.

The next exhibition to be held in Tehran is the third Annual International Trade Fair from 13-24 September 1975, in which over 150 British firms will be taking part.

Aids to navigation exhibition, Ottawa

A group of six British firms, supported by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Trinity House Lighthouse Service, will exhibit at the Aids to Navigation Equipment Exhibition in Ottawa from 5-8 August.

A conference of lighthouse authorities, with 400 delegates from all over the world, will take place concurrently with the exhibition – making the show an important meeting place for suppliers and users in the navigation equipment industry.

The British firms will display a variety of equipment including a data buoy for monitoring meteorological and nautical phenomena, marine receivers and a track plotter, and radio and radar aids. They will also offer consultancy services covering procurement, engineering, implementation, testing and commissioning.

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Export Business

STC wins £40 million order for undersea telephone system

A single export order worth £40 million for an undersea telephone cable system between Europe and South America has been awarded to the submarine systems division of Standard Telephones and Cables (STC) jointly by the telecommunication administrations of Spain and Venezuela.

This is STC's largest ever single export order and is for a 3,240 nautical-mile-long cable capable of carrying 1,840 simultaneous telephone conversations between the Canary Islands and Venezuela. It will also be used for data and telex transmission.

Columbus Day inauguration

Named Columbus, the system is Venezuela's first direct cable link with Europe and will supplement its existing satellite links. STC will manufacture and install the entire system, which will be ready for service before the end of September 1977. The inauguration is planned for Columbus Day, 12 October 1977.

The three locations of STC's submarine systems division at Greenwich, North Woolwich and Southampton will have responsibility for the manufacture and installation of the complete system comprising 1.47 in. lightweight coaxial cable, 540 repeaters, 36 equalisers and terminal equipment.

GEC-Elliott system ordered by Iran

In the face of strong international competition GEC-Elliott Process Automation Ltd. of Leicester has won a major order valued at over £2¼ million from Iran.

This order placed by the Tehran Regional Electric Co., Iran covers the design, manufacture, supply, installation and commissioning of a computer-based remote supervisory control and data acquisition system for the electric power distribution network for the city of Tehran.

From a central control room facilities will be provided for the operator to open and close circuit breakers and change taps on transformers situated many miles away thus ensuring the security of the electricity supply to greater Tehran, with some 4 million inhabitants and a total electricity demand of around 1,000 MW. The order is one of the largest and most comprehensive ever placed with the company for this type of application.

A team of GEC-Elliott Process Automation engineers from Leicester will supervise the installation of the equipment and carry out the commissioning of the system in Tehran. In addition, an extensive training programme will be provided both in UK and on site for customer's engineers who will be operating and maintaining the system and equipment.

Expansion of Australian microwave-radio systems

GEC Telecommunications Ltd. is supplying £1½ million-worth of equipment to expand the 2,400 km. (1.500 mile) transcontinental 2 GHz microwave-radio system between Perth and Adelaide. The system was supplied and installed by GEC Telecommunications for the Australian Post Office in 1970.

The expansion includes the provision of additional telephony bearers over the whole route, which will effectively treble the telephony capacity of the system, together with a two-way television bearer over a section of the route.

Miniature tape recorders for USA

Oxford Electronic Instruments has received orders, totalling around £¾ million, from the USA, for their miniature analog tape recorder designed for a wide range of applications in medical and environmental monitoring.

Of particular significance are two orders, valued at £100,000 each. One from Medilog Cardiac Monitors, Houston, Texas, a joint venture operation in the United States between Oxford Instruments in the UK and Cardioscan in the US. The other from Ambulatory Monitoring Inc., of New York.

Oxford's recorder, called 'Medilog' when applied to medical applications and 'Microlog' for environmental monitoring, is claimed by the company to be the smallest and most simple to operate analog data logging system in the world and is a radically new type of data acquisition system. It is capable of retrieving large quantities of information, yet only requires about as much space as the size of a packet of 20 cigarettes.

In the medical field, Medilog has achieved outstanding success worldwide, particularly in ambulatory monitoring – the recording of physiological information, ie blood pressure, heart rate, respiration, from people going about their normal daily activities. In the environmental logging role the instrument has been applied to the collection of data on noise levels, pollution levels, vehicle design, oceanographic measurement, geophysical measurements, and many others.

A £1 million export shipment of EMI-Scanner brain examination systems produced by EMI at Hayes in Middlesex being loaded on to a jet at Heathrow for a special charter flight to the USA. The X-Ray Systems division of EMI, which recently won the Queen's Award to Industry for export achievement, completely filled a Pan Am Boeing 707 with six EMI-Scanner systems and two Diagnostic Display consoles packed in 104 crates totalling 22,000 kilos in weight.

Taylor Woodrow's Jordan contract

Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd., through its Mechanical, Electrical and Process Division, has been awarded a £2.5 million contract for the design, engineering, supply and supervision of installation of phosphates beneficiation plants in Jordan for Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.

The new plants will be at the El Hassa mine, where they will increase production of phosphates by 2,600,000 tonnes annually. They are part of an expansion programme which will ultimately increase the total annual production of phosphates from Jordan to some 10 million tonnes.

Almost all of the equipment for the new plant will be of British manufacture. The process technology, as well as much of the process equipment, will be provided by the Denver Equipment Division of Joy Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Epsom, under subcontract to Taylor Woodrow.

Speeding on her trials, a Fairey Marine lifeboat, of a type ordered under a £2 million contract from the Imperial Navy of Iran. The 13.4 m long lifeboat, built by the Fairey Company Ltd. of Hounslow, is self-righting and built to a very high standard of safety, reliability and simplicity of operation in service. The Fairey Company will also supply support services, including the training of crews in handling and maintenance.

Both Moscow exhibits sold

Vero NC Developments Ltd., of Southampton, sold both the machines which were on display on their stand at the recent Communications Systems and Equipment Exhibition (SVJAZ '75) in Moscow's Solokniki Park.

The machines were the new Europa R numerically controlled printed circuit board routing machine, and a Europa PCB drilling machine, equipped with four spindles and fitted with Vero's own automatic drill changing system. The order, worth some £70,000, was placed by the Technoprom-import Agency.

Automatic biscuit plant for Peru

An order for an automatic biscuit making plant to be installed in a new factory now under construction by Molinera Inca SA at Trujillo, Peru, has been won by Simon-Vicars Ltd. of Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside.

The 1,200 mm.-wide plant will incorporate all necessary processing machinery for the production of a comprehensive range of biscuits from laminated oil-sprayed crackers to rotary moulded and wire cut soft dough biscuits.

Simon-Vicars will install and commission the equipment and provide technical knowledge to enable Molinera Inca to produce biscuits suitable for the Peruvian market.

This latest contract brings the total value of orders received by Simon-Vicars from South American countries over the last three years to £3.75 million.

GEC powered electric multiple-unit trains at the Braamfontein Depot of South African Railways. GEC Traction Ltd. have won their second large power equipment order from South African Railways within a year. The total value of the order, is in excess of £8.75 million. It is for new electric multiple-unit trains to run on the Eastern Transvaal, Western Transvaal and Natal sections of the South African Railways system. Complete power equipment for 123 motor coaches and 295 trailer coaches is to be supplied, comprising traction motors, driving gears, auxiliary machines, associated control gear and current collection equipment.

Rolls-Royce generating jets for Quebec

Hydro-Quebec of Canada has ordered three Rolls-Royce Olympus powered gas turbine electrical generating sets for installation at their new Cadillac generating station in Quebec.

Six Olympus, valued at nearly £1.75 million and supplied by the Industrial and Marine Division of Rolls-Royce Ltd., will power three American built Curtiss-Wright generating sets with a combined electrical output of 160 MW.

Seventeen Rolls-Royce Olympus engines have now been ordered by North American electrical utilities, of which 13 are for Canada, for emergency, peaking and base load use.

Missions and Tours

Seventeen German footwear buyers visited London on 10 and 11 July on an inward mission sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation. Here Robert Hall (left), chairman of the Federation's Export Committee, talks to two of the German buyers from the retailer's buying group, Rexor. The visitors represented wholesale, mail order, and department store interests as well as retailers' buying groups.

Eric Deakins (left), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade meets British Overseas Trade Board guest, His Excellency Aly El Sayed, Minister of State for Transport and Communications, Federation of Arab Republics. His Excellency was a member of a three man inward mission visiting Britian from Egypt, 13-20 July, sponsored by BOTB, the Railway Industry Association of Great Britain and the British Railways Board. Egypt is undertaking major reconstruction of her rail links following recovery of the Suez Canal zone and a second World Bank loan of $37 million has been made to Egyptian Railways.

Colombia symposium for consultants

From Alan Powell, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Bogota: A great success. This was the verdict on Tecnologia '75, the symposium organised jointly by the British Consultants Bureau and the Colombian Society of Engineers, under the auspices of the British Overseas Trade Board, in Bogota from 23-26 June. Opened by the Chairman of British Rail, Richard Marsh, the symposium attracted a daily average of 115 engineers, architects and planners, reflecting the growing awareness of the new Colombia. Also present were planners and architects specially invited from Ecuador.

Colombia is no longer solely dependent on coffee production and price, but is a country of over 25 million with diversified industry, abundant natural resources and a recent growth rate of over 6 per cent. The British share of the market in 1974 was worth over £24 million, a figure which is still growing significantly.

The British participants in the symposium have great expectations, together with their Colombian professional colleagues, of sharing in the developments still to come. Projects involving external finance of over US$2,200 million were examined at the recent Paris meeting of the Consultative Group on Colombia.

Wide range of subjects discussed in Caracas

The British Consultants' Bureau and the Venezuelan Society of Consulting Engineers in association with the British Overseas Trade Board held a successful three-day Symposium at the Hilton Hotel in Caracas from 16-18 June.

The papers presented at the symposium covered a wide range of subjects, including power generation, agriculture, ports and underground railways. Particular interest was stimulated by papers presented both by the BCB team and their Venezuelan hosts on the role and organisation of the consultancy profession, and the transfer of technology from industrialised to industrialising countries.

Both sponsoring organisations agreed that the symposium laid the foundations for fruitful collaboration in the future between the two organisations.

Canadians anxious to do business with the UK

From Peter Beckingham, BOTB Publicity Unit in Sheffield, 16 July. 'We are willing and we are anxious to do business with companies in the UK.' So said John Cheyne, Vice President, Merchandising, Macleods, Winnipeg, and leader of a 17-man mission of Canadian businessmen which left the UK in the middle of July after a two week visit to the Midlands and Sheffield.

The mission, which was arranged by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers and the National Federation of Engineers Tool Manufacturers, consisted of industrial and wholesale tool distributors from Western Canada – British Columbia, Manitoba, and Alberta – who visited 17 manufacturing plants in the course of their stay.

The visitors spent a day at the grounds of Chatsworth Manor, Derbyshire, where five of the UK host companies made a joint presentation of their products before a more informal demonstration of sheep shearing and dog handling. In the evening they gathered at the splendid Cutlers Hall in Sheffield. With the Canadian buyers were senior representatives of all 17 host companies, and a top table of distinguished speakers, including Mr. J. H. Neill, a member of the BOTB and chief executive of James Neill Holdings Ltd., and the Hon. Mark Balfour, President of the Engineers Tool Federation.

The value of the mission, both for the Canadian buyers and the UK manufacturers, was spelt out clearly by John Cheyne. 'At each plant,' he said, 'we were met by your top executives, and the tours were a revalation to us. It was an eye-opener to see the automation which has taken place, but which has nevertheless maintained so emphatically the quality of your products. This quality is second to none, and was amply demonstrated throughout our visit.'

The praise offered by the Canadian leader was tempered with words of warning and advice. He recommended to manufacturers that they should, when selling to Canada, offer a two-price system – both free on board UK port prices, and landed prices. 'To compete with the USA, European countries especially West Germany, and Japan,' he warned, 'the price must be right.'

Hugh Neill, speaking in his capacity as a member of the BOTB, said: 'The boost that your visit has given to the members of every company, backroom and shopfloor workers, has been very considerable.' The BOTB inward mission scheme, he said, provides the opportunity for visitors to consider a product against its manufacturing background from top to bottom. 'You must judge what you have seen,' he concluded, 'and we are prepared to believe that you like what you have seen.'

Although few firm orders were placed by the Canadians during the mission, there can be little doubt of its long term value to UK companies. As Mr. A. Vernon, Vitrex sales director, put it before leaving the Cutlers Hall, 'this mission has been most welcome, and offered our company the opportunity to consider the market in Western Canada. We have established useful contacts, and I have no doubt that three or four multiple outlets will soon emerge.'

Michael Lines, a member of the Canadian mission, trying his hand at sheep shearing when the group visited Chatsworth House in Derbyshire.

Oil-related mission to US Gulf

An oil-related trade mission, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and Dundee and Tayside Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be based in Houston from 29 November to 9 December, and New Orleans from 10-13 December 1975.

Offshore Lousiana is one of the most prolific producing areas of crude oil in North America – drilling away from land has been underway since the late 1940s. Many of the major companies involved in the international offshore industry have extensive interests and centres of operation in this part of the Gulf of Mexico.

A spokesman of the Chamber explained that this fourth outward oil mission to the United States intends to meet the 'second wave' of United States oil-related companies planning North Sea participation by way of joint ventures, manufacture under licence, and inward investment.

Companies interested in joining this mission should contact the Dundee and Tayside Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Panmure Street, Dundee, tel. (0382) 22122.

The British Overseas Trade Board sponsored Foundation Course in Overseas Trade, which some 40 colleges and polytechnics will be offering in the autumn, was the subject of a seminar organised by the Association of Yorkshire and Humberside Chambers of Commerce and held at the Novotel, Bradford, on 2 July. Mr. J. Hugh Neill (standing), is a member of the BOTB with special responsibilities for education and training.

Engineering industry mission to Far East

A mission, 'Engtrade 35-Australasia', sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Engineering Industries Association, has left the UK for a tour of Singapore and Australia from 20 July to 13 August.

The mission consists of 12 delegates, mainly from the engineering industries. British embassies will assist in introducing delegates into industrial, commercial, and government circles in Australia and Singapore.

Trade Information

New ECGD schemes are helping exporters – Peter Shore gives latest figures

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's new cost escalation insurance scheme has already attracted £1 billion of export business and there is about £1 billion of business under inquiry.

This was stated by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, when he addressed the ECGD Advisory Council in London on 16 July, and reviewed a number of new schemes being offered to exporters by ECGD.

Mr. Shore said the cost escalation scheme – for large projects with a long construction period – was no substitute for the wider attack on the root causes of inflation which the Government was vigorously tackling. But if the scheme could provide a breathing space while inflation could be brought securely under control, it would have been worth while.

He said the ECGD's support for performance bonds had also attracted considerable interest. Two guarantees had been issued, relating to contracts to a total value of £68 million, both of them in oil producing countries in the Middle East.

'Bond support has been approved or is under active consideration in a further 13 cases involving a total contract value of over £600 million. Three of these already relate to contracts below the original £20 million minimum,' he continued.

Commenting on the problems which UK suppliers of capital equipment were facing in the financing of their contracts, Mr. Shore said a scheme was being worked out for giving ECGD guarantees to banks to encourage the provision of pre-shipment finance for large export projects.

This was a difficult and technical area, and details were still being worked out. But he hoped to be able to announce soon the outlines of the scheme. In the meantime ECGD were already prepared to consider particular cases where both the exporter and his banker wished to bring them forward.

Trading performance

'I believe that ECGD has played an important part in the very significant improvement in Britain's trading performance which we have seen in 1975,' said Mr. Shore. 'In the first half of this year our deficit on current account was £458 million. This is a striking improvement on the deficit of £1,890 million a year earlier.

'The trend in the volume of exports, sharply up over 1973, remained relatively steady throughout 1974. In 1975, despite the general recession in world demand, and while the volume of imports had fallen rapidly, export volume had on the whole continued to hold up.

'I am convinced that if Britain's exports can remain competitive on price and delivery, the prospects of a continued improvement in our balance of payments are bright.

'It is on our success in curbing inflation that our ability to export depends; it is on our ability to export that our economic survival depends.'

ECGD news

£500,000 line of credit for Spain

The Exports Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £500,000 line of credit which Tozer Standard and Chartered Ltd. have arranged with Banca Catalana SA, Spain. Finance for the loan was provided by Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd.

This line of credit will enable Spanish buyers to place orders in the UK for plant, capital equipment and associated services by financing 80 per cent of the contract price, payment being made at time of shipment; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources.

To qualify under the terms of the loan a contract must have

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Peter Shore (fourth from left), Secretary of State for Trade, and Eric Deakins (second from left), Parliamentary Under-Secretary, with Sayed Saif Al Ghurair and other members of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce in London last week. The Dubai businessmen were visiting the United Kingdom as guests of the Government.

a minimum value of £10,000 and be placed by 17 January 1977.

Exporters interested in further details of this facility should contact either Miss A. Kelly of ECGD (tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 698) or Mr. R. D. Bessell of Tozer Standard (tel. 01-283 3122).

Origin rules

The Origin of Goods (Amendment) Regulations 1975/1109 which come into operation on 1 August 1975 amend the following Regulations relating to rules of origin:

1 The Denmark (Origin of Goods) Regulations 1973/681

2 The Channel Islands (Origin of Goods) Regulations 1973/2229

3 The Origin of Goods (Petroleum Products) Regulations 1973/2071

4 The Origin of Goods (Certain Mediterranean Countries) Regulations 1974/2076

5 The Commonwealth Preference (Standstill Area) Regulations 1973/2069.

Copies of these regulations may be obtained from HMSO (price 18p net). Further information may be obtained from the Department of Trade, General Division (2), tel. 01-215 5713/5750.

HE Ahmed Ismail, the Egyptian Minister of Finance, who was one of the speakers at the 14 July seminar on trade opportunities between Britain and the Middle East organised by the Committee for Middle East Trade of the British Overseas Trade Board (*Trade and Industry*, 18 July), took the opportunity while in London to have private talks with Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade. The Ministers discussed general trade matters of mutual interest.

Overseas Newspapers and Periodicals

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Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Argentina, Jordan, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama and Sweden have been published in the 'Hints to Business Men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to General Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption.

Representations should be received by 8 August.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
27.14	Petroleum coke, calcined, and not containing by weight more than 0.8 per cent of ash, 0.05 per cent of magnanese, 0.09 per cent of nickel or vanadium and 0.01 per cent of titanium	Calcined petroleum coke	31 December 1975	15650
29.23	Ferric sodium hydrogen diethylenetriamine-*NNN'N''N''*-penta-acetate	Sequestrene 330 Fe	31 December 1975	15485

Constantine Forwarding Ltd., are organising the export of 140 railway wagons to Jordan. Worth more than £2 million with spares, the wagons were ordered by the Jordanian Ministry of Transport from BRE-Metro Ltd. and are being built at the Ashford works of British Rail Engineering. The wagons are for the Aqaba Railway. The first shipment (seen here) was made recently from Sheerness, to be followed by a second from Avonmouth Docks. The wagons will be used for transporting phosphate from a mine at El Hassa to the port of Aqaba over a strengthened section of the Hedjaz-Jordan Railway and an extension of the line now under construction from Batu-el-Ghul to the port.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Republic of Ireland

New Customs and Excise Tariff. A new Customs and Excise Tariff, operative from 1 July 1975, has been issued by the Revenue Commissioner of the Republic of Ireland.

The main changes are as follows:

a Final reductions have been made in protective duties on certain goods of United Kingdom origin and on certain goods of Northern Ireland origin. Almost all goods of United Kingdom or Northern Ireland origin classifiable in the industrial sector of the Tariff will, therefore, become free of customs duty as from 1 July 1975.

b Final reduction has been made in the customs duty on imports of wine of United Kingdom origin. This change has the effect of equating the level of Customs duties on British-made wines with that of the Excise duties on corresponding Irish made wines.

c Certain baskets suitable for use on bicycles and formerly classified at tariff code number 8712-072 are now classified at Tariff code number 4603-414.

d Subheadings at Tariff Heading 01-01 have been amended to provide for the classification of pure-bred breeding horses in subheading 01.01A.

e Tariff code numbers 3306-346 to 3306-364 have been provided for the classification of perfumed spirits and the previous relevent tariff code numbers 3306-352 and 3306-360 have been cancelled.

f The numbers of subdivisions at subheading 23.07C has been reduced from 15 to three.

g The following *import quota restrictions* have been abolished:
Brushes, brooms and mops.
Hose silk and artificial silk, of a value not exceeding £2.50 per dozen pairs.
Sparking plugs and metal components thereof.
Springs (laminated) and leaves thereof, for vehicles.
Superphosphates.

The existing Supplements to the Customs and Excise Tariff continue to have force.

Copies of the Tariff are obtainable from the Government Publications Sale office, GPO Arcade, Dublin 1, price 70p, postage extra. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 466/467/288.

Belgium

Marking of cigarette packages. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 114, 14 June 1975, published a decree dated 3 April 1975 on the marking of cigarette packages. From 14 December 1975 packages must carry a legible warning in letters at least eight points high and in French, Dutch and German that 'cigarettes can damage your health'. A copy of the decree (in French) is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Approval of motorcyclists' helmets. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 119, 21 June 1975, published a decree dated 30 May 1975, repealing the decree of 25 May 1964 on the approval of safety helmets worn by motorcyclists and their passengers. The decree enters into force on 1 October 1975 but a transitional period of one year is to be allowed, after which unapproved helmets may not be sold or worn. A copy of the decree (in French) is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Price control regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 129, 5 July 1975, published a decree dated 3 July extending from 7 July 1975 until 30 September 1975 the decree of 5 May 1975 which fixed prices at levels prevailing on 30 April 1975. A copy of the decree (in French) is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Netherlands

Import licensing relaxations. *Nederlandse Staatscourant* No. 115 of 19 June 1975, contains Order No. 675/315 of 9 June 1975, under which, with effect from 20 June 1975, an import licence is no longer required for imports into Netherlands of goods of United Kingdom origin classified under the following tariff headings:

31.02 B, C, 51.04 B, 55.05, 55.09, 56.05 B, 57.06, 57.10, ex 58.04 – of cotton: (58.04.63, 58.04.67, 58.04.69), ex 60.03 – acrylic socks, etc., (60.03.25, 60.03.27), 60.04, 60.05, 61.01, 61.02, 61.03, ex 61.05 (61.05.20, 61.05.30, 61.05 99), ex 62.02 B – bed and table linen of cotton: (62.02.11, 62.02.41, 62.02.43, 62.02.47), 79.03 A, ex 84.52 A*, 92.11 A III, 98.02

* Description of items in *Trade and Industry* of 4 July 1975, page 42.

An English translation of the Order is available. Applications from British exporters for copies should be addressed to: OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, ext. 288/466/467.

France

Duty-free quotas for wire rod etc., The French *Journal Officiel* of 2 July 1975 announced the following duty-free quota amounts for the second half of 1975.

Tariff no.	Description	Amounts (tonnes net)
ex 73.15.A.V.b.1	Hot rolled or extruded wire rod having a diameter of 4.5 to 6 mm. and a carbon content of 0.62 to 0.74 per cent	4,000
	Wire rod of a diameter of 4.5 to 13 mm. and containing 0.60 to 1.05 per cent of carbon, 0.05 per cent or less of sulphur and phosphorus (taken together) 0.15 to 0.30 per cent of silicon and 0.1 per cent or less of all other components (taken together) except manganese and chrome.	1,200
73.16.A.II.b	Used rails for re-rolling	33,000

Admissions under the quota are subject to the general conditions for importation of duty-free or duty-reduced quotas stipulated in an Order dated 17 December 1969. By way of exception five copies of the application for a licence are needed, of which four will be passed on to the Direction Générale des Douanes et Droits Indirects by the Ministère de l'Industrie et de la Recherche.

The products imported under the quotas must be used for the

purposes stated within one year of the date of registration of the customs declarations. The importation of used rails is subject to the fulfilment by the actual consignee, assignee and user, of the formalities laid down in Article 4 of the Order of 28 June 1964, stating the conditions of admission of certain goods under a more favourable Tariff Treatment in view of their intended use.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 423/7174/408/482.

Cosmetics and personal hygiene products. The French *Journal Officiel*, 11 July 1975, announced a new law (No. 75.604) amending Volume V of the Public Health Code, relating to the manufacture, packing, importation and marketing of cosmetics and personal hygiene products. It sets out those that are now considered to be medicaments and therefore subject to the same restrictions.

A new chapter has been inserted (Chapter VIII) referring to conditions for the manufacture and sale of cosmetics and personal hygiene products.

For products already on the market a time-limit of one year from 10 July 1975 is granted for the general provisions and of three years for the setting-up of the necessary records.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 423/7174/408/482.

Spain

Opening of global quotas. The Spanish global quotas for 1975 were published in *Trade and Industry*, 23 January 1975; an additional list was published in the 28 March issue. The Spanish authorities have now invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrialists against the following quotas for the second half of 1975. Applications must be presented within 30 days from 15 July 1975.

Quota no.	Tariff no.	Goods	Value of quota (pesetas)
8	69.11.B 69.12.B 69.13 69.14	Manufactures of ceramic materials	18,150,000
10	ex 70.13.B.1 70.21.A 70.21.B 70.21.C	Glass manufactures	25,000,000
11	71.12 71.13 71.14 71.15 71.16	Imitation jewellery and other manufactures	20,000,000
12	ex 73.40.C.1 73.40.C.2 73.40.C.3	Other manufactures of cast iron and steel	22,000,000
14	82.03.A 82.03.B 82.03.C ex 82.03.E 82.04	Hand tools for industry	51,150,000
15	ex 82.02 ex 82.06.A ex 82.06.B	Saws and blades	28,750,000
59	25.02 25.03	Pyrites and sulphur	124,500,000
71	71.01 71.02.B ex 71.04	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones and similar products	225,000,000
72	71.05 71.06 ex 71.09 71.10 71.11	Precious metals, precious metal-plated products, either raw or semi-finished	175,000,000
73	71.08	Rolled gold products	5,000,000
74	ex 73.23	Iron and steel containers	19,500,000
75	73.36	Stoves, heaters, cookers, gas-rings, etc., as well as their parts of cast iron or steel	10,750,000
76	74.19.E 74.19.F	Other copper manufactures	9,750,000
77	ex 76.15 76.16.B	Other aluminium manufactures	10,750,000
78	82.09 82.10 82.11.A 82.11.C 82.11.D 82.11.E 82.14	Cutlery, knives, etc., made of iron and steel	19,500,000

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Import duty suspension. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 11 July published Decree 1496/1975 announcing the suspension of import duty until 22 August on neutral sodium carbonate, tariff heading 28.42C and methyl alcohol, tariff heading 29.01 A.1. Inquries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 10 July 1975 announced modifications to the home compensation tax levy on the following subheadings of the Spanish customs tariff:

Tariff heading	Home compensation tax levy
17.04.D	11%
82.14.A	13%
B.1	13%
B.2.a	13%
B.2.b	14%
B.2.c	14%
B.3.a	13%
B.3.b	14%
B.3.c	14%
B.4.a	13%
B.4.b	14%
B.5.a	13%
B.5.b	14%
B.6	14%

The same *State Gazette* announced a reduction to 1.5 per cent until 22 August 1975, in home compensation tax levy on tariff heading Ex. 07.05.B.2, white beans, and tariff heading 18.01.A, raw cocoa beans. Inquiries: OTAR, ext. 462/471/472/473.

Malta

Licences for importers. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 27 June 1975, published the following notice:

'It is proposed to amend the Sale of Commodities (Control) Regulations, 1972, so as to provide that no person shall import any commodity, for sale to the public either direct or through any other person, unless he is in possession of a licence issued by the Director of Trade authorising him to act as importer.

All those who wish to be granted such a licence should send the following details to the Director of Trade (2 Cavalier Street, Valletta) not later than Friday, 11 July 1975:

a Name of applicant (whether company, firm or individual).
b Full address.
c Telephone number (if any).
d Lines of business for which licence is required.
e CIF value of imports in 1974 of each line of business.
f Signature of applicant.
g Name and surname (in block letters) of signatory.'

The Malta *Government Gazette*, 8 July extended the above period for submitting applications to 31 July 1975. Inquiries: OTAR, ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff amendment. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 11 July 1975, published the Import Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1975 which permits duty-free importation of transmission, conveyor or elevator belts or belting of vulcanised rubber (tariff heading 40.10).

The same Act provides for relief from duty on the following items subject to certain conditions:

a Bird rings imported for use by qualified bird ringers for the study of the migratory habits of birds.
b Gluten-paste, including all kinds of gluten flour, semola, bread, biscuits and similar gluten products.
c Musical instruments and sports equipment which are imported by youth organisations subject to the following conditions:
  i the organisation concerned is not generally limited to a particular place or area in Malta.
  ii The organisation concerned is approved by the Minister responsible for education for the purpose of this provision.
  iii The Comptroller of Customs is satisfied that the articles imported are intended for the exclusive use of the organisation concerned.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Iraq

Customs law amendment. The Iraqi authorities have issued amendments to the customs tariff affecting BN numbers 15.07 and 87.02. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7062/475.

Iran

Textiles and synthetic fibres. It has been reported in the English language newspaper *Kayhan* that the Iranian Government has lifted the restrictions on the import of textiles and synthetic fibres BTN nos. 51.04, 55.09, and 56.07, with effect from 1 July 1975. No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475.

Israel

Weights of pre-packed foodstuffs. The Israeli authorities have issued an order regarding the standardisation of weights of certain pre-packed foodstuffs. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Import liberalisation list amendments. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the Free Import Order 1968 which affect the following tariff numbers:

29.04 73.17 73.20 84.12 84.19-1000

Inquiries specifying items in which interested: OTAR ext. 458/461.

South Africa

Inquiry into the marketing of sawn softwood. Notice No. 487, published in the *Government Gazette* of 11 July 1975, gives notification that the Board of Trade and Industries has been directed to inquire into, to report on and to make such recommendations as it may consider necessary on the marketing and distribution structure of sawn softwood from the production stage in the lumber mill until it reaches the end consumer, with particular reference to:

a the nature of the marketing and distribution structure;
b the role and significance of intermediaries in the structure;
c the nature, extent and effect of business practices or trading methods in the structure; and
d any other related matter on which the Board wishes to express its view.

Sawn softwood mentioned in this directive includes softwood construction timber (building timber) and softwood industrial timber (shooks), but not products such as fibreboard, chipboard, blockboard, lumberboard, veneer and plywood.

Interested parties are invited to submit their representations in this connection to the Board of Trade and Industries, Private Bag X342, Pretoria 0001 by 5 September 1975. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 677, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 18 July 1975 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on the following:

1 Yarn of polyester fabrics classifiable under tariff subheadings 51.01.02.10, and 51.01.02.20.
2 Acrylonitrile-butadienestyrene and acrylonitril-styrene classifiable under tariff subheading 39.02.40.23.
3 (a) Urinary drainage bags classifiable under tariff heading 39.07.
(b) Latex tubing classifiable under tariff heading 40.09.
(c) Castrating rings classifiable under tariff subheading 40.14.15.
(d) Various surgical products classifiable under tariff subheading 90.17.90.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Tariff application. Details of Tariff Application List No. 676 – glass were published in *Trade and Industry* on 18 July 1975.

Readers should note that this application also covers glass classifiable under tariff subheading 70.05.30. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 27 June 1975:

R1228 BN 39.01: Specific provision at a rate of duty of 20% is made for phenol formaldehyde novolaks.
R1229 BN 76.04: The rate of duty on certain aluminium foil is increased from free to 20%.
R1245 BN 45.04: Specific provision is made for corks or stoppers, of agglomerated cork only, and the rate of duty thereon is reduced from 15% to free.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES
R1246 Item 316.14. BN 48.15 and 76.04. Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on certain kraft tissue paper and aluminium foil for the manufacture of electrical capacitors.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section,
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section,
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Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Madagascar

Nationalisation. The nationalisation of commercial banks and insurance companies was announced by Capitaine de Frégate Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Supreme Council of the Revolution, in his first speech after the formation of his Government on 16 June 1975. Inquiries: Insurance Division, Department of Trade, tel. 01-215 3534.

Singapore

Import licensing of refined sugar. The Singapore Registrar of Imports and Exports has issued I and E Notice No. 10/75 dated 13 June 1975. This indicates that the import of refined sugar (BTN Code 17.01.200) is subject to import licensing with effect from 13 June 1975. In the Notice Singapore importers are advised that letters of credit for the importation of goods under licensing must not be established nor orders placed for them before the necessary licences are issued by the Imports and Exports Office. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Japan

Gas heating appliances: safety regulations. New safety regulations for domestic gas heating appliances are under consideration by the Japanese Government. It is believed that these will relate to instantaneous gas water heaters or bath heaters, and stoves (ie heaters).

A further notice will be issued when these regulations have been promulgated. An unofficial translation of a summary of the draft regulations is available to British exporters on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

JAPAN DISSATISFIED WITH THE LIMITED RESULTS ACHIEVED THROUGH AGENTS AND DISTRIBUTORS?

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES await enterprising British manufacturers in the form of joint venture operations, wholly owned subsidiaries, branch sales operations and technological licence agreements in Japan. But in order to ensure that the best possible advantage is taken of such opportunities, it is absolutely essential to appoint a local representative possessing the necessary expertise and connections to act on your behalf. As Advisers and Consultants with years of experience of negotiations with the Japanese in the above sectors, we are pleased to offer our specialised services, which also include market research.

Mr. Rock from our Tokyo office is now stationed in the U.K. His address is 88 Wimborne Road, Poole, BH15 2DA, (Tel: 020 13 79820), and he is available for consultations with clients whenever necessary.

G. INOUYE, Managing Director
RAYDEN (JAPAN) LTD, Shokin Building, 11-12, 8-chome, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Tel: 571-8023/5. Telex: J28847 (Raydenco).
Cables: Raydenco, TOKYO

Australia

Potatoes: Industries Assistance Commission reference. A notice in *Trade and Industry* on 9 May 1975 reported a request for temporary protection against imports of frozen potatoes into Australia. The Special Minister of State has considered the request and finds there is no need for urgent temporary protection.

Nonetheless the Industries Assistance Commission has been asked to look into the question of long-term assistance for the Australian potato growing and processing industry as a whole (Tariff items 07.01, 07.02, 07.04, 11.05, 20.02). Evidence must be formally submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447), who will represent UK interests if authorised. The Association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent, indicating the goods with which they are concerned, and the request they anticipate submitting. Ref. CRE 948/75. Inquiries: tel. 01-215 5319.

Time switches: Temporary Assistance Authority report. A notice in *Trade and Industry* on 21 March 1975 reported a request to the Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia for temporary protection against imports of certain time switches.

The Special Minister of State has announced the Government's acceptance of the findings of the Temporary Assistance Authority that no urgent action is necessary to protect the Australian industry against imports. The Government's decision means that there will be no increase in the duties currently applying to the goods covered by the Authority's report. Ref. CRE 503/75. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Papua New Guinea

Tax exemptions. On 17 June 1975 the Papua New Guinea House of Assembly passed through all stages the Income Tax (Exemption) Bill 1975 which amended the Income Tax Act 1959.

The Income Tax (Exemption) Bill 1975 provides for a five-year tax holiday for wholly-owned Papua New Guinea business groups, co-operatives and companies and is designed to help establish and expand local enterprises. The scheme will be phased out within 10 years during which time the Department of Finance will consider graduated tax exemptions for joint ventures with at least 75 per cent local participation.

Certain overseas experts in Papua New Guinea on aid assignments may also qualify for tax exemptions on their official emoluments, and income derived from outside Papua New Guinea where 'that person is an employee or an officer of a Government of a country which is a prescribed donor of international aid, and the official emoluments and income of that person are not exempt from income tax in the country where that person is ordinarily resident'. Ref. CRE 36488. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

New Zealand

Vinyl floor coverings: Tariff and Development Board report. Copies of the New Zealand Tariff and Development Board report on vinyl floor coverings (tariff items 39.02.089 and 59.10.018) are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division. Ref. CRE 1194/72. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Canada

Tariff changes. The following changes to the Canadian Customs Tariff have been announced:

New expiry dates

Tariff items 19265-1, 20222-1, 35420-1, 40135-1, 43848-1, 52260-1, 56192-1, 86300-1, 92935-4, and 93902-85, now expire 31 October 1975.

Tariff items 38225-1, 38230-1, 43855-1, 56208-1, 56209-1 and 93902-5 now expire 28 February 1976.

Tariff items 19250-1, 29640-1, 41008-1, 43837-1, 43889-1, 43906-1, 43907-1, 522301-1, 52235-1, 52236-1, 56270-1, 57420-1, 60310-1, and 61840-1 now expire 30 June 1976.

Tariff items 32680-1, 42870-1, 43440-1, 43856-1, 43893-1, 43894-1, 43896-1, 57415-1, 57425-1, 86500-1, 92823-2, 92922-2, 92923-4 and 93907-5 now expire 30 June 1977.

Tariff items 1924-5, 28715-1, 37925-1, 43882-1, 92906-3 and 93819-15 now expire 30 June 1978.

Tariff item 43849-1 now expires 30 June 1979.

Amended Items

Tariff item	Description	Expiry date	British preferential tariff and most-favoured nation tariff	General tariff
38235-1	Sheet or strip of iron or steel, hot- or cold-rolled, not more than 0.160 in. in thickness, with cutting edge on one or both sides, for use in the manufacture of cutting dies	28 February 1978	7½% mfn Bp free	35%
382651-1	Sheet or strip of iron or steel, coated with tin, minimum base weight 155 lb. (0.01705 in.), maximum base weight 500 lb. (0.05500 in.), for use in the manufacture of commercial bakery baking pans	30 June 1976	Free	25%
40136-1	Copper wire or cable, tinned or coated with a lead-tin alloy, and covered with irradiated cross-linked polyolefin covering, for use in the manufacture of diesel-electric railway locomotives and off-highway rear dump trucks	30 June 1976	Free	25%
43879-1	Stainless steel sheet or strip, hot- or cold-rolled, with chromium content of not less than 10% nor more than 14%, for use in the manufacture of mufflers, tail pipes, exhaust pipes and inlet or outlet pipes for catalytic converters for motor vehicles	30 June 1976	Free	20%
54110-1	Yarns, two ply, consisting of one end bleached cotton slub yarn and one end pure boiled linen yarn, natural, bleached or dyed, for use in Canadian manufactures	30 June 1976	7½% Bp and 12½% mfn	25%
92847-4	Sodium dichromate for use in the manufacture of sodium chlorate, chromic acid, chromic oxide and chromium sulphate including basic chromium sulphate	30 June 1976	Free	25%

The above amended came into force on 1 July 1975.

Section 7 of the *Chemicals and Plastics Tariff Reduction Order* is revoked and the following substituted therefor:

'7. Barium chloride, technical grade for use in reducing the level of radium in the liquid effluent from uranium production shall be admitted free of duty until 31 October 1978, if entitled to admission under the British preferential tariff or the most-favoured-nation tariff and shall be referred to as tariff item 92830-5.'

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Textile and Clothing Board investigation into imported hosiery. The Canadian Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce has announced that the Textile and Clothing Board is to undertake an inquiry into imports of certain types of hosiery. The products concerned are (a) men's and boys' hosiery of man-made fibre (b) men's and boys' hosiery nes (c) women's and girls' nes and (d) children's and infants' hosiery. Not included in the inquiry are the following products (a) men's and boys' wool hosiery; (b) seamless and fully-fashioned hosiery; (c) panti-hose of (d) elastic hosiery.

The TCB has invited interested parties to submit briefs by 18 August 1975. All correspondence and eight copies of the brief should

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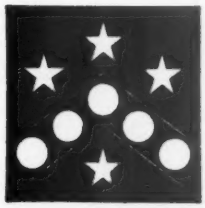


Bank of New Zealand

London main office
1 Queen Victoria Street, EC4P 4HE
Telephone: 01-248 6401

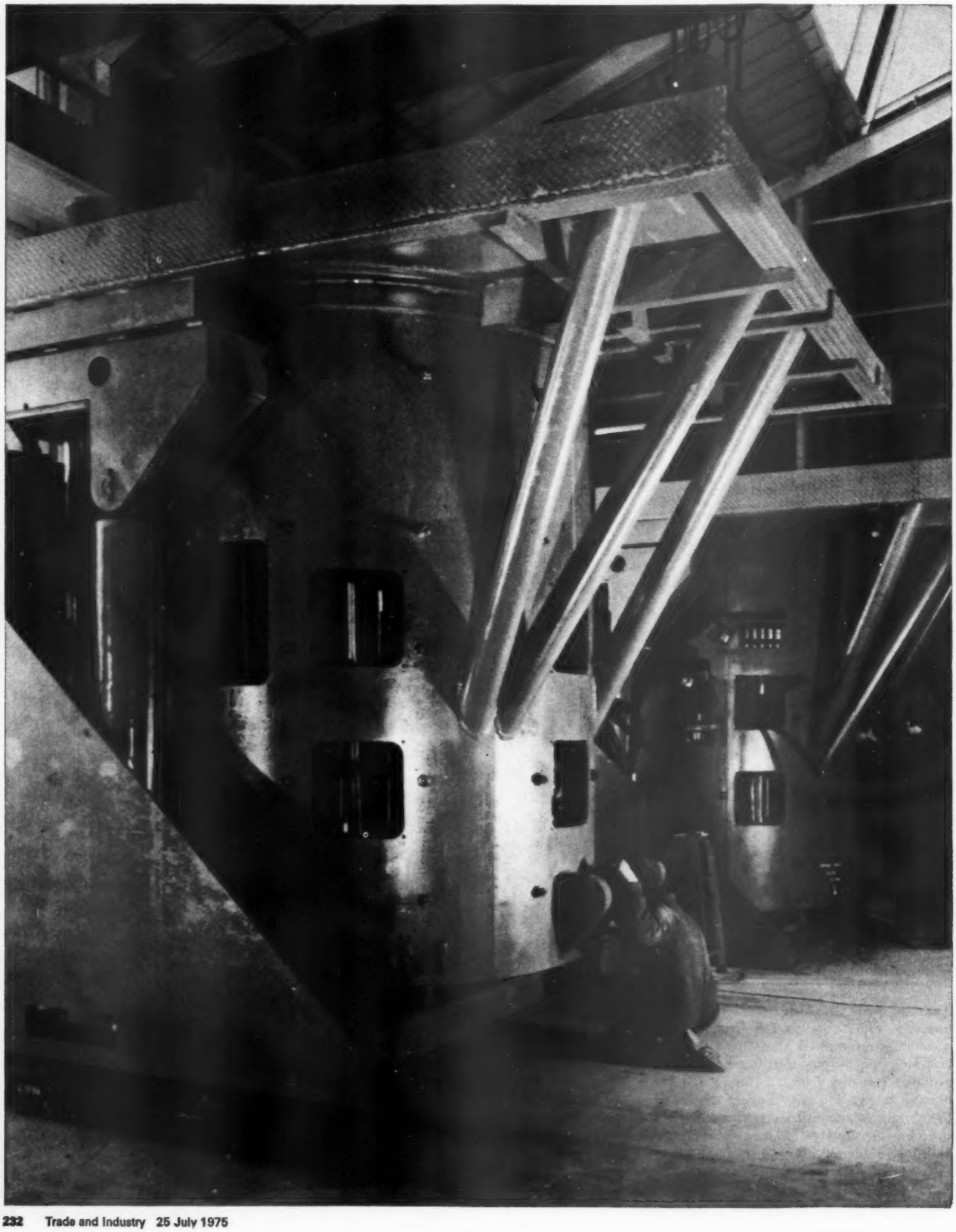
West End
54 Regent Street, W1R 5PJ
Telephone: 01-734 2181
30 Royal Opera Arcade, SW1Y 4UY
(New Zealand House Building)
Telephone: 01-930 5761

Head office
Wellington

New Zealand's Largest and Leading Bank

British induction furnaces for Romanian rolling mills

These two mains frequency coreless induction furnaces, seen during the final stages of construction at the Inductotherm Europe Ltd. works at Droitwich, are part of a £400,000 order placed by the Romanian Government – the largest single export order obtained by the company. They will be used for melting iron used in the manufacture of rolls for rolling mills.



be sent to: The Executive Director, Textile and Clothing Board, Room 712, Journal North Building, 300 Slater Street, Ottawa, K1A OH5. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5397.

Modification of residence tolerances for certain agricultural chemicals. The Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has announced certain modifications to the Food and Drug Regulations on the tolerances for several agricultural chemicals on foods.

Full details are available in Information Letter No. 443, which can be obtained from OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Jamaica

Industrial Incentives Law. The Jamaican Minister of Industry, Tourism and Foreign Trade has approved that tempered glass goods should be declared 'approved products' for the purposes of the Industrial Incentives Law 1956.

A notice that consideration was being given to designate these products appeared in *Trade and Industry* of 13 June 1974, page 550. Applications for the status of 'approved product' and 'approved manufacturer' are processed by the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, 4 Winchester Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica (PO Box 505). It would be appreciated if firms writing to the Corporation would copy their initial correspondence to the British High Commission, Commercial Department, PO Box 393, Kingston, Jamaica. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5296.

Industrial Incentives Act. The Jamaican Minister of Industry, Tourism and Foreign Trade is considering whether grinding and polishing wheels and stones of all types should be declared 'approved products' for the purposes of the Industrial Incentives Law 1956:

'Approved manufacturers' of these products will enjoy income-tax relief, duty-free imports of building materials, plant, machinery, etc., and other concessions. Applications for the status of 'approved product' and 'approved manufacturer' are processed by the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, 4 Winchester Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica (PO Box 505). It would be appreciated if firms writing to the Corporation would copy their initial correspondence to the British High Commission, Commercial Department, PO Box 393, Kingston, Jamaica. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5296.

St. Vincent

Import restriction changes. The St. Vincent authorities, by SRO No. 5 of 25 February 1975, have published a revised list of import licensing restrictions and prohibitions.

Some items previously prohibited, except from the ECCM and Caribbean Community, have now been included in the list of products that may be imported under import licence from the Comptroller of Supplies. Details of these items are as follows:

ex 02.02.10	Dead poultry (fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowls) and edible offals thereof (except of liver), fresh, chilled or frozen
07.01.10	Potatoes (not sweet)
ex 09.04	Black pepper
20.05	Jams, fruit jellies, marmalades, fruit puree and fruit pastes being cooked preparations, whether or not containing added sugar
ex 21.05	Soups and broths in liquid, solid or powder form
ex 87.06	Motor vehicles front pipes, tail pipes and mufflers
ex 94.01	Chairs and other seats except stools (other than those falling within 94.02) whether or not convertible into beds and parts thereof
ex 94.03	Headboards and other furniture except ironing boards and laboratory furniture

Licences for the last two items must be obtained from the Cabinet. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to OTAR numbers are given at the end of each notice

Barbados

Currency. With effect from 5 July, the value of the Barbados dollar has been determined at the new rate of BDS$2 to US$1. This supercedes the former parity of BDS$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The Barbados dollar, therefore, will no longer be linked to sterling, but will float with the United States dollar. This represents in effect a revaluation against sterling of approximately 6.67 per cent. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5296.

Chile

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has announced the following revised exchange rates effective from 25 June 1975.

a The 'Bank' rate: raised from Escudos (Eo) 4,600 to Eo 5,000 per US dollar;
b The 'Brokers' rate; raised from Escudos (Eo) 5,100 to Eo 5,500 per US dollar.

Because of the frequency of the change in Chilean exchange rates in future a notice will be published in *Trade and Industry* once a month detailing changes that have occurred within the month. Interim information is available. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5289.

Tariff amendment. Decree No. 669, issued by the Chilean Ministry of Finance and published in the *Diario Oficial* (Government Gazette) reduces the rate of duty affecting the following item in the Chilean Customs tariff:

		New ad-valorem rate
23.07.00.99	Milk substitutes – vegetal preparations used in calf feeding – known as "Denkovit" or equivalent.	5% (previously 45%)

The above reduction will remain in force until 31 December 1975 and will permit a total import not exceeding 5,000 tons of milk substitute. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Uruguay

Import liberalisation – exchange control. The obligatory financing requirement of 180 days for the import of goods has been eliminated (*Trade and Industry*, 20 June 1975, page 701, refers). Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Colombia

Prior import deposits. Colombian Monetary Board Resolution No. 29 eliminates the 100 per cent provisional local currency deposit in order to obtain exchange licences to pay for imports.

Resolution No. 30 sets the local currency deposit (equal to a minimum percentage of the value shown on the import registration) importers are required to make at the time they apply for an import licence at 35 per cent (previously 40 per cent). In addition to those imports which have already been exempted by previous provisions, the following are also exempt from the local currency deposit requirement:

a those made by official and private entities, with a financing of not less than three years, contemplating or not the payment of an initial instalment or of partial instalments during this period;

b those made for the coming International Fair that will take place in Bogota during July 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Duty concessions and reduction. Decree No. 953 of May 1975 states that the import duty of 15 per cent determined by Article 3 of Decree 2133 of 4 October 1974, covering machinery and indispensable auxiliary components which combined would make complete equipment necessary to set up or expand industries of economic and social value to the country, shall also be applicable to these goods brought in before this date, provided the National Customs Policy Council had authorised a single tariff rate on them and clearance had been made on the basis of Article 40 of Decree 2886 of 1968.

By the same Decree the customs duty levied on hydraulic presses (under BTN 84.45.08.01) is reduced to 20 per cent (previously 60 per cent).

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Brazil

Payments and prior deposits. The Central Bank of Brazil has revoked Resolution No. 319 (see notice 258, 7 April 1975) which required importers of goods with a tariff higher than 37 per cent to close foreign exchange contracts before the goods could be cleared through customs. A new resolution replacing it, No. 331, requires importers to deposit with the Bank of Brazil the cruzeiro equivalent of the fob value of imported goods with a tariff above 37 per cent before the issue of an import licence. The deposit will be repaid after 180 days. Excluded from this requirement are:

a goods coming under chapter 30 and positions 12.01, 29.44 and 38.11 of the Brazilian tariff,
b goods linked to draw-back operations,
c goods financed by medium or long term foreign credit or in the form of a foreign investment registered with the central bank,
d goods imported into the free zone of Manaus for consumption or industrial processing there.

A full translation of Resolution 331 is awaited and further information will be issued when received. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Reference prices. The following reference prices have been established:

Cast iron jaw type lathe-plates. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,424, of 9 May 1975, fixed a reference price for cast iron jaw-type lathes, of heading 84.48.02.02 as shown in the following table:

Size in mm.	Reference price in US$ cif per unit
Up to 135	52,00
136-165	64,00
166-215	86.00
216-255	107.00
256-325	176.00
Over 325	311,00

This resolution also revoked Resolution 1,009 which set up the previous reference prices.

Ammonium chloride. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,411, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for ammonium chloride, under heading 28.30.02.00, of US$350.00 per tonne/cif. This resolution also revoked Resolution 1,742, of 29 June 1973, which established the previous reference price.

Meta-silicate of anhydrous sodium. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,412, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for meta-silicate of anhydrous sodium, under heading 28.45.11.00, of US$274.00 per tonne/cif.

Perchloroethylene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,413, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for perchloroethylene, under heading 29.02.08.00, of US$608.00 per tonne/cif.

Ethylic ether of monoethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,414, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for ethylic ether of monoethylene glycol, under heading 29.08.31.00, of US$768.00 per tonne/cif.

Ethylic ether of diethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,415, of 9 May 1975, laid down a reference price for ethylic ether of diethylene glycol, under heading 29.08.32.00, of US$840.00 per tonne/cif.

Butylic ether of diethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,416, of 9 May 1975, laid down a reference price for butylic ether of diethylene glycol, under heading 29.06.32.00 of US$825.00 per tonne/cif.

Diethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,417, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for diethylene glycol, under heading 29.08.34.00, of US$664.00 per tonne/cif.

Benzoic acid. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,418, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for benzoic acid, of heading 29.15.07.01, of US$782.00 per tonne/cif.

Sodium benzoate. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,419, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for sodium benzoate, under heading 29.14.07.17 of US$947.00 per tonne/cif.

Stearic acid. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,420, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for stearic acid, of US$957.00 per tonne/cif.

Monoethanolamine. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,421, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for monoethanolamine, of heading 29.23.03.00, of US$812.00 per tonne/cif.

Diethanolamine. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,422, of 9 May 1975, established a reference price for diethanolamine, under heading 29.23.04.00, of US$752.00 per tonne/cif.

Ortho-xylene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,432, of 28 April 1975, established a reference price for ortho-xylene, under heading 29.01.48.00, of US$260.00 per tonne/cif.

Butylic ether of monoethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,425, of 28 April 1975, established a reference price for butylic ether of monoethylene glycol, under heading 20.08.31.00, of US$846.00 per tonne/cif.

Methyl alcohol (methanol). Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,435, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for methyl alcohol (methanol), under heading 29.04.13.00, of US$186.00 per tonne/cif.

Triethylene glycol. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,429, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for triethylene glycol, under heading 29.08.99.00, of US$1.375,00 per tonne/cif.

Maleic anhydride. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2.426, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for maleic anhydride, under heading 29.15.05.02, of US$1,190.00 per tonne/cif.

Melamine. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,427, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for melamine, under heading 29.35.29.00, of US$1,351.00 per tonne/cif.

Acrylo nitrile butadiene styrene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,430, of 28 April 1975, established a reference price for acrylo nitrile butadiene styrene, under heading 39.02.02.13, of US$1,500.00 per tonne/cif.

Toluene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,432, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for toluene, under heading 29.01.46.00, of US$260.00 per tonne/cif.

Xylene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,432, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for xylene (a mixture of isomers), under heading 29.01.48.00, of US$260.00 per tonne/cif.

Benzene. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,434, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for benzene, under heading 29.01.30.00, of US$480.00 per tonne/cif.

Titanium dioxide. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,428, of 28 April 1975, laid down a reference price for titanium dioxide of the anathase type, under heading 28.25.01.01, of US$1,081.00 per tonne/cif. Resolution 2,431 laid down a reference price for titanium dioxide of the nitile type, under heading 28.25.01.02, of US$1,337.00.

Spectacle frames. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,440, of 22 May 1975, established the following reference prices for spectacle frames and parts thereof, under heading 90.03:

Tariff no.	Goods	Reference price (US$ per unit/cif)
90.03.01.02	Spectacle frames, of plastic material, whether or not containing base metal, whether or not plated with gold, silver or other precious metal	6.50
90.03.01.03	Spectacle frames, of base metal, whether or not plated with gold, silver or other precious metal	6.70
90.03.02.99	Parts and components, of base metal, whether or not plated with gold, silver or other precious metal	200.10 per kg.

This resolution also revoked Resolution 2,133, which established the previous reference prices. No further information is available.

No further information is available.
Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Reference prices for cathode ray tubes. Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,460, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 30 May 1975, laid down reference prices for 'Cathode Ray Tubes Colour Television Reception', under BTN heading No. 85.21.02.04, as follows:

Goods	Reference price in US$-cif per unit
Colour television cathode ray tubes:	
up to 43 cm. inclusive	53,00
over 43 cm. up to 51 cm. inclusive	73,00
over 51 cm.	81,00

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Proposed duty changes. The Brazilian authorities have announced the following proposed duty changes:

Condensers. Customs Policy Council Edital 733, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 4 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in duty on fixed ceramic condensers, of heading 85.18.01.00, from 55 per cent to 85 per cent.

Telephone call counters. Customs Policy Council Edital 734, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in duty on telephone call-counters, under heading 90.28.12.00, from 20 per cent to 50 per cent.

Methanol. Customs Policy Council Edital 750, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 16 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed duty change on methyl alcohol (methanol) of heading 29.04.13.00. The proposal is to increase the duty from 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

Raw cadmium. Customs Policy Council Edital 735, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 April 1975 gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on raw cadmium, of heading 81.04.07.01, from 15 per cent to 50 per cent.

Headings 85.01 and 85.19. Customs Policy Council Edital 736, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 15 April 1975, gave notice of the following proposed increases in import duty:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Present	Under study
85.01.18.01	FI coils (sound and picture): for focus, frame-holds, line hold and linearity	70%	100%
85.01.90.04	For transformers and induction coils	55%	85%
85.18.05.00	Adjustable or variable electric condenser	55%	85%
85.18.90.00	Parts and components	45%	75%
85.19.01.03	Selector or commutator switches	55%	85%
85.19.90.01	Pins, contacts, terminals, strips, etc. for connection and switching apparatus	45%	
	'Ex' For selector or commutator switches, for use in electronics		75%
85.19.90.99	Other	45%	
	"Ex" For selector or commutator switches, for use in electronics.		75%

Surgical threads. Customs Policy Council Edital 737, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 15 April 1975, gave notice of the following proposed increases in import duty:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Present	Under study
30.05.01.01	Catgut	37%	67%
99	Other	37%	67%
	'Ex' Suture equipment for micro surgery (thread of a diameter equal to or less than 7, 0, with 11 mm. needles)		37%
42.06.01.00	Surgical catgut, unsterilised	0%	40%
90.17.01.03	Needles for surgical suture	9%	39%

Spark plugs. Customs Policy Council Edital 738, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 25 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on spark plugs, of heading 85.08.03.00, of from 45 per cent to 75 per cent.

Benzoic acid and sodium benzoate. Customs Policy Council Edital 739, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on benzoic acid and sodium benzoate, of heading 29.14.07.01 and 29.14.07.17 respectively, of from 20 per cent and 30 per cent respectively to 50 per cent.

Resuscitation equipment. Customs Policy Council Edital 740, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on resuscitation equipment, of heading 90.18.06.00, or from 9 per cent to 35 per cent.

Melamine. Customs Policy Council Edital 741, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed duty increase on melamine, of heading 29.35.29.00, of from 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

Chemicals. Customs Policy Council Edital 742, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 16 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in duty on the following chemicals.

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Present	Under study
29.22.30.00	Phenylenodiamine, its salts and halogenerated, nitrated or sulphonated derivatives	15%	
	'Ex' organic derivatives of Phenylenodiamine		45%
29.22.40.00	N-propyl N-phenyl-p-phenylenodiamine	15%	45%
38.19.13.00	Anti-oxydising preparation for the rubber industry	20%	
	'Ex' containing organic derivatives of phenylenodiamine		50%

Oxamniquine. Customs Policy Council Edital 743, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 24 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed reduction in import duty on oxamniquine, of heading 29.35.99.00, of from 15 per cent to 0 per cent.

Bifocal lenses. Customs Policy Council Edital 744, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 29 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on bifocal lenses, of heading 90.01.04.01, of from 9 per cent to 39 per cent.

Chemicals. Customs Policy Council Edital 745, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 29 April 1975, gave notice of the following proposed changes in import duties on chemicals:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Present	Under study
29.06.99.00	Other	15%	
	'Ex' Nonylphenol		45%
34.02.01.99	Other	20%	
	'Ex' Ethoxylated nonylphenols with from 4 to 30 molecules of ethylene oxide		50%
34.02.99.00	Other	20%	
	'Ex' Ethoxylated nonylphenols with from 4 to 30 molelules of ethylene oxide		50%
34.04.01.01	of solid polyethylene glycol	25%	
	'Ex' of a molecular weight of 1.000, 1.500, or 4.000 to 6.000		55%
38.19.26.00	Liquid polyethylene glycol	25%	
	'Ex' of a molecular weight of 200, 300, or 400 to 600		55%

Textile printing cylinders. Customs Policy Council Edital 746, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 29 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in the import duty on textile printing cylinders, under heading 84.40.90.99. The proposal is to increase the duty from 30 per cent to 60 per cent.

Ethoxyquine. Customs Policy Council Edital 747, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 9 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed duty change on 6-ethoxy-1,2-Dihydro-2,3,4 trimethylquinoline (ethoxyquine), under heading 29.35.99.00. The proposal is to increase the duty from 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

Optical mirrors. Customs Policy Council Resolution 748, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 9 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in the import duty on optical mirrors, silvered on one side, of heading 90.01.01.00. The proposal is to increase the duty from 9 per cent to 39 per cent. No further information is available at present. Any further information will be published as it becomes available.

Chemicals. Customs Policy Council Edital 749, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 9 May 1975, gave notice of proposed duty changes on several chemicals as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Present	Under study
29.15.01.02	Butyl orthophthalate	50%	80%
29.15.01.06	Octyl orthophthalate	50%	80%
29.15.01.99	Other		
	'Ex' Phthalates of isobutyl and iso-octyl		80%
38.19.32.00	Plasticisers on a base of any mixture of phthalic esters	50%	80%

Harvesting machines. Customs Policy Council Edital 751, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 22 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in import duty on the following headings:

84.25.01.01	Self-propelled harvesters
84.25.01.99	Others

The proposal is to increase the import duty from 25 per cent to 37 per cent.

Polymers. Customs Policy Council Edital 752, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 30 May 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in the import duty rate on 'polymers of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and/or vinyltoluene, under heading 39.02.02.99. The proposal is to increase the duty from 17 per cent to 47 per cent.

No further information is available, but will be published when received.

Duty amendment of woven materials of glass fibres. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,449, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, made the following amendment to the Customs Tariff on woven materials of glass fibres under heading 70.20.06.00:

70.20.06.00	woven materials of glass fibres	
70.20.06.01	plain	120%
	'Ex' of a minimum width of 50 in.	20%

Amendments to heading 85.04. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,454, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, announced the following amendments to heading 85.04.90.03:

Tariff no.	Goods	Import duty
85.04.90.03	Plate separators	20%
	'Ex' Separator of vinylic resin with maximum measurements of 20 cm. in width and 30 cm. in length	50%
	'Ex' Separator of cellulose or paper with or without plastic fibres with maximum measurements of 20 cm. in width and 30 cm. in length	50%

Import duty exemption of polyvinyl resin. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,455 published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, exempted from import duty a quota of 60.00 tonnes of 'special PVC resin', of heading 32.02.02.05, intended solely for the battery plate separator industry. The beneficiaries and quantities will be determined by the Customs Policy Council.

Import duty exemption on vaccine for Marek's disease. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,459, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 30 May 1975, gave notice of an exemption of import duty on vaccine for Marek's disease, under heading 30.02.01.06.

This concession may be revoked at any time should the national interest demand it.

Increase in import duty on chemicals. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,450, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, increased the import duty on the following chemicals to 45 per cent:

Tariff no.	Product
29.08.34.00	Diethyleneglycol
29.23.03.00	Monoethanolamine
29.23.04.00	Diethandamine
29.08.34.00	Ethers of ethyleneglycol
29.08.32.00	Ethers of diethyleneglycol
29.13.24.00	Methyl-Heptyl-Cetone

These increases will have a validity of one year, until 27 May 1976.

Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,452, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, made the following increases in import duty on chemicals:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rates Old	New
29.02.27.00	Carbon tetrachloride (tetrachloromethane)	20%	50%
29.02.28.00	Tetrachloroethylene	30%	60%

Reduction of import duty on absorbent paper. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,449, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, reduced the import duty on 'Absorbent paper and paperboard', having a coloured or decorated surface, in spools or rolls, weighing between 35 and 180 gm./m.² with a tolerance of plus or minus 5 per cent under heading 43.07.03.01 from 145 per cent to 45 per cent.

Duty reduction on glucose. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,451, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, reduced the duty on 'Chemically pure glucose' of heading 17.02.01.01, from 115 per cent to 15 per cent.

Duty reduction on cascara sagrada. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,453, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 27 May 1975, reduced the duty on cascara sagrada under heading 12.07.99.00, from 109 per cent to 9 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

European Community

First new style European Council meeting Heads of Government in Brussels

Following the European Council meeting in Brussels on 16 and 17 July, the nine EEC Heads of Government issued statements on four subjects of common interest – the economic and monetary situation, the United Nations, institutional questions and Portugal.

The meeting was the first of the new style European Councils, successors to the earlier European 'summits', following the British referendum on Community membership. Speaking on the role of the European Council, James Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said he always felt it should be 'a pretty free-ranging exchange of thoughts and ideas about any particular problem we wish to focus upon, so that Heads of Government can begin to harmonise and co-ordinate their policies accordingly in the light of each others' analysis of the situation.'

Mr. Wilson (right) with (left) West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Luxembourg Prime Minister Gaston Thorn, after the two day European Council meeting in Brussels on 16 and 17 July.

Economic and monetary situation

On the economic and monetary situation, the nine Heads of Government invited the EEC Finance Council 'to give close attention to the development of the economic situation, and to strengthen the co-ordination of the Member States' economic and financial policies'. Their statement also 'took note of the intention of certain Member States to adopt harmonised measures to prevent a further deterioration of the economic situation in the autumn'. They recognised that 'the current economic problems must be tackled in co-operation with the other industrialised countries (in particular the United States and Japan) if there is to be any hope of an effective economic recovery' and confirmed their readiness to do all in their power 'to achieve this objective.'

They also invited the Finance Council 'to continue to make every effort to re-establish a more stable international monetary system. With this in view', they 'reaffirmed the importance of close co-operation within the Community'. Noting 'with satisfaction' the return of the French Franc to the Community exchange system, known as the 'Snake', they invited the Finance Council to 'undertake a detailed examination of the technical problems of the floating of Community currencies'.

Finally, the Heads of Government 'gave a favourable reception to the idea of a tripartite conference, requested by the European Trade Union Confederation, in which the Ministers of economic affairs and of labour would take part', and invited the Commission to prepare appropriate proposals.

Raw materials and development co-operation

In their United Nations statement, the Nine Heads of Government said that 'moved by a common wish for dialogue, the Community and the Member States will submit to the international community, in the appropriate settings, proposals for action on a balanced range of subjects corresponding to the major preoccupations of the developing countries particularly as regards raw materials and development co-operation. Special attention will be given to the problems of the poorest developing countries.'

Referring to the seventh session of the UN General Assembly on development and international economic co-operation later this year, they said that 'the aim to be pursued by the Community and the Member States is the achievement of real progress towards a more balanced and equitable pattern of international economic relations, which will involve strengthening the position of the developing countries.'

Institutional questions

A further statement issued by the Heads of Government revealed that they had asked the Foreign Affairs Council 'to examine the problem of elections to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, taking into account the draft submitted by the latter and any factors which may emerge during the examination itself and to report back to it on this matter by the end of the year.'

In the same statement they invited the Foreign Affairs Council 'to ensure that further progress is made on the setting up of a passport union and also to submit a report on this question, if possible, by the end of the year.'

Portugal

Finally, on Portugal, they reaffirmed 'that the European Community is willing to discuss closer economic and financial co-operation with Portugal'. They also pointed out 'that the European Community – in accordance with its European policy and history to date – can only support a pluralistic democracy.'

EEC and Mexico sign commercial co-operation agreement

A five year commercial co-operation agreement between the Community and Mexico was signed at the Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels on 15 July. The signing followed the successful conclusion of negotiations on 9 and 10 June.

The agreement commits the Community and Mexico (Article 1) 'to develop their trade to their mutual benefit' and, for this purpose, to 'establish and encourage commercial and economic co-operation in all sectors of interest to them so as to contribute to their economic and social progress and to the balance of their reciprocal trade at the highest possible level taking into account Mexico's special situation as a developing country'.

Joint Committee

The main effect (Article 6) is to set up a Joint Committee to 'ensure the proper functioning' of the agreement and explore possible areas of commercial co-operation. These are to include an investigation into ways of overcoming non-tariff barriers to trade and a study of opportunities for the general expansion of economic co-operation. The committee will hold at least one meeting a year.

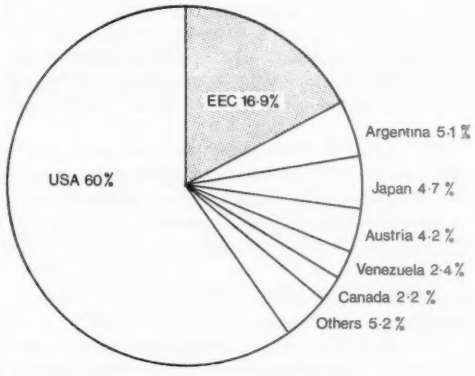
Most favoured nation

The agreement also contains provisions (Article 2) for most favoured nation treatment to be granted by both parties in respect of customs duties and regulations, taxes and other internal charges on imported or exported goods or services, and payment and internal market regulations.

Similar agreement

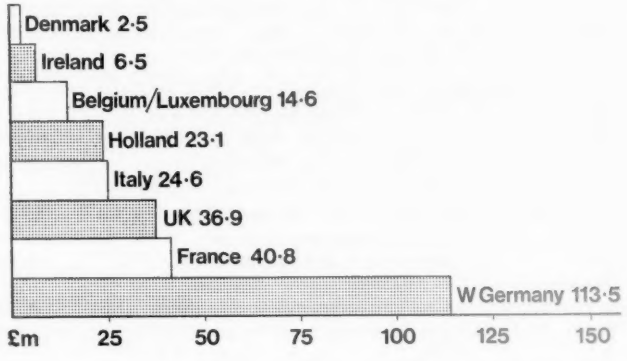
This agreement is broadly similar to those concluded by the Community with some other developing countries, including India, and replaces any earlier agreement between individual Member States and Mexico. It follows agreements already signed by the EEC with three other Latin American countries – Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

Mexico's main suppliers



Source: Banco Nacional de Mexico, Mexican Ministry of Industry and Commerce, 1973

Imports by EEC Member States (£ million)



Source: Banco Nacional de Mexico, Mexican Ministry of Industry and Commerce, 1973

EEC information for businessmen: free booklet

EEC – Your Questions Answered, an 87-page booklet published by the EEC Information Unit, contains answers to businessmen's inquiries on a wide range of EEC subjects. These include trade with EFTA and other countries associated with Community, customs procedures and documentation, tariffs, market information and non-tariff barriers to trade.

The booklet also provides basic information about the role of the Community institutions and has articles on the ECSC, Euratom and the European Investment Bank. The final section of the booklet is devoted to time-saving reference material including a glossary of abbreviations, lists of publications and 18 pages of useful addresses and contacts in Europe and the UK.

Copies are available, free of charge, from the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4301 (6 lines).

Sir Donald Maitland (left), presently Deputy Under-Secretary in charge of economic affairs at the Foreign Office, is to replace Sir Michael Palliser (right) as British Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the European Communities in Brussels this autumn. Sir Michael, who has been designated as the new head of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, will take over in October from Sir Thomas Brimelow as Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service.

New EC Legislation

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations, and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1641/75 establishing a system of standard average values for the determination of the value for customs purposes of apples and pears. (*Official Journal* L165, 28 June 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1762/75 establishing the standard average values for the determination of the value for customs purposes for apples and pears to be applied during the periods at the beginning of the 1975/76 importing season. (*Official Journal* L179, 10 July 1975)

Decision 75/403/EEC conferring authority to fix standard average values for the determination of the value for customs purposes of apples and pears. (*Official Journal* L177, 8 July 1975)

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 1624/75 determining the amounts of the variable components, compensatory amounts and additional duties applicable during the third quarter of 1975 on the importation of goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L169, 1 July 1975)

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 1697/75 fixing the weighting coefficients to be used in calculating the prices of pig carcases on Community markets. (*Official Journal* L172, 3 July 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1785/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 213/67/EEC establishing the list of representative markets for pigmeat in the Community. (*Official Journal* L182, 12 July 1975)

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 1698/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 221/72 fixing the coefficients to be used for the purposes of determining inventory value and specifying the maximum tolerance for quantity losses occurring during the storage of beef held in intervention. (*Official Journal* L172, 3 July 1975)

Wine regulation. (EEC) 1723/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1528/75 concerning the temporary suspension of the distillation of table wines provided for in Regulation (EEC) 1036/75. (*Official Journal* L174, 5 July 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1724/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1198/75 on the distillation period for table wine provided for in Regulation (EEC) 1036/75. (*Official Journal* L174, 5 July 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1786/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 267/75 and Regulation (EEC) 1036/75 on the distillation of table wines. (*Official Journal* L182, 12 July 1975)

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 1750/75 fixing for the 1975/76 marketing year reference prices for carp. (*Official Journal* L178, 9 July 1975)

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L177, 8 July 1975, contains the following correction to Regulation (EEC) 1242/75 supplementing Regulation (EEC) 3559/73 as regards hake (published in *Official Journal* L125, 16 May 1975)

Page 17, Article 1, Annex:
Note (1) is to be replaced by:
'(1) These commercial specifications are those defined in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) 1883/75.'

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 1784/75 fixing the amount of aid for the production of durum wheat for the 1975/76 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L182, 12 July 1975)

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L177, 8 July 1975, contains the text of the following correction to Regulation (EEC) 1508/75 specifying for the 1975/76 marketing year certain marketing centres for cereals and the derived intervention prices there applicable (published in *Official Journal* L154, 14 June 1975)

Page 5, Annex, 'Emden', column 3:
for: '123,15'
read: '125,15'.
Page 6, Annex, 'Neustadt/Holstein', column 3:
for: '121,63',
read: '123,04'.

Seeds. Decision 75/407/EEC. Fourth Council Decision on the equivalence of field inspections carried out in third countries on seed-producing crops. (*Official Journal* L183, 14 July 1975)

Decision 75/408/EEC. Fourth Council Decision on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries. (*Official Journal* L183, 14 July 1975)

Eggs. Decision 75/415/EEC authorising the United Kingdom to take certain protective measures in respect of eggs. (*Official Journal* L179, 10 July 1975)

EEC/ISRAEL AGREEMENT. *Trade and Industry*, 13 June 1975 (page 619), contained an article about the new EEC trade agreement with Israel. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L165, 28 June 1975 contains a notice about the entry into force of this agreement on 1 July 1975, and a number of implementing Regulations and Decisions as follows:

Regulation (EEC) 1625/75 on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel.

Regulation (EEC) 1626/75 establishing Community supervision of imports of certain products originating in Israel.

Regulation (EEC) 1627/75 on imports of fresh lemons originating in Israel.

75/372/ECSC Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part.

75/373/ECSC Decision of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council of 26 June 1975 opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in Israel.

Further information on ECSC decisions. Department of Industry, Iron and Steel Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ (tel. 01-211 3000 ext. 6626). Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (tel. 01-215 3070, imports into the UK from Israel). Overseas Tariff and Regulation Section, Export Data Branch, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420, import duties, taxes, etc. on exports to Israel), ext. 408/482/7174 (import duties, taxes, etc. on imports from Israel into EEC other than UK).

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, pictured with (left) Patrick Hillery, EEC Commissioner for Social Affairs, and Finn Olav Gundelach, Commissioner for the Internal Market and Customs Union, at Lancaster House on 17 July. They were attending a luncheon given by Roy Hattersley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

EEC – your questions answered

Here we publish answers to some of the questions of general interest which businessmen put to the Department of Industry's EEC Information Unit.

The Unit was set up specifically to help the businessman wanting facts about the EEC and the way its policy, procedures and legislation could affect his business operations and decisions. Although the Unit's prime responsibility is with those matters which are the concern of the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, it is usually possible to direct an inquirer to sources of specialist advice in other government departments. It can be contacted by a telephone call to 01-215 4301 (six lines), or by writing to the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Q. My firm is considering exporting to Europe. Could you tell me how soon there will be duty free entry for exports of industrial goods from the UK into all EEC and EFTA countries?

A. The present position is that industrial goods of UK origin benefit from a 60 per cent reduction of the Common Customs Tariff on importation into the six original EEC countries – France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. There will be a further 20 per cent reduction on 1 January 1976 and duty free trade will be achieved when the final 20 per cent reduction is made on 1 July 1977.

Two other countries – Denmark and the Irish Republic – joined the EEC at the same time as the UK. Like us, Denmark had been a member of EFTA and, with a few exceptions, our exports to Denmark are still duty free. There is a similar position in the case of the Irish Republic as, under the terms of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade agreement, the final reduction of duties took place on 1 July 1975 resulting in free trade in nearly all goods between the two countries.

After enlargement in 1973, the EEC made agreements with each of the seven remaining EFTA countries – Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland. These agreements provide for the progressive and mutual reduction of customs duties between the original six EEC countries and the Irish Republic, on one hand, and each EFTA country on the other. Free trade in most industrial products will be achieved by 1 July 1977 but there are longer transitional periods for certain sensitive items including some steel products, aluminium and paper.

So far as trade between the UK and the seven EFTA countries is concerned, most of the free trade already achieved under the original EFTA agreement has been maintained.

As the result of these various arrangements, duty free entry for most industrial goods traded between 16 Western European countries (the nine EEC countries and seven EFTA countries) will have been achieved when the transitional period ends on 1 July 1977.

Information on duties applicable to UK exports to EEC and EFTA countries may be obtained from:

Overseas Tariffs and Regulations,
Department of Trade,
Export House,
50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757
Ext. 408/482/439 (EEC general inquiries), 423 (France), 7174 (Denmark), 288 (Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg), 466 (Italy, Irish Republic), 467 (Federal German Republic), 458 to 461 (Iceland, Switzerland, Norway, Portugal, Finland, Austria, Sweden).

Q. Where can I get information about taking a British lorry to the Continent?

A. The Department of the Environment distributes two booklets giving basic details on international road haulage operations.

Your Lorry Abroad – Guide for British Goods Vehicle Operators Making Journeys Overseas, is a 40-page handout made up of:

1 a note giving general information on bilateral road haulage agreements (which govern haulage between the UK and most European countries), permits and other documentation, fiscal charges, motor fuel, insurance, customs facilities and the addresses of foreign transport authorities; and
2 supplementary notes for individual countries.

This is supplemented by *A Guide to International Goods Vehicle Drivers' Hours and Records*, which explains in simple terms with summary tables and illustrations the laws governing the permitted hours of work and rest of drivers engaged on international journeys, plus the written records of such journeys which drivers and their employers must keep. The guide lists for further reference the acts and regulations from which its contents are drawn.

Copies of both booklets can be obtained free of charge from the International Road Freight Office, Department of the Environment, 36-42 Low Friar Street, Newcastle on Tyne NE1 5XR, tel. 0632 610031.

Q. I understand there is an EEC Directive on units of measurement. How will this affect UK manufacturers and our trade with EEC countries?

A. The Council Directive (71/354) of 18 October 1971, made under Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, is designed to achieve an approximation or harmonisation of the legislative provisions of Member States concerning units of measurement. It provides for the exclusive use from 1978 onwards of a prescribed system of metric units over a wide area, not only in the economic field, but also in public health and safety and administrative activities. In our treaty negotiations it was agreed that the Community would continue to recognise imperial units in UK legislation until the end of 1979, unless we agree to dispense with any units sooner or secure the agreement of the Community to an extension of the use of particular units because of special considerations. We are obliged not to discriminate against the use of the Directive's prescribed metric units – eg in the description of goods coming into the country from other member states – from 1978 onwards (though we shall retain the right to require an imperial marking as well).

Not only the UK and the Irish Republic are involved in making changes in their units. Other Member States, although already metric, will be dispensing with what are now obsolescent metric units in implementing the requirements of this important Directive.

The text of the Directive appears in the White Paper on 'Metrication' Cmnd. 4880, which is available from HMSO price 26½p. Additional information is available from the Standards Weights and Measures Division, Branch 2, of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 6455.

Government Publications in London

from

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn WC1V 6HB

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure: Total	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Manufacturing industry	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Distributive and service industries	Changes in stocks: Total	Changes in stocks: of which: Manufacturing industry	Changes in stocks: of which: Wholesalers	Changes in stocks: of which: Retailers	Balance of payments: Current balance	Balance of payments: Visible balance	Balance of payments: Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,365	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	439	324	68	−23	698	−11	709
1971	101	103	100	94	103	76	−126	52	−4	1,052	273	778
1972	104	109	106	85	116	−54	−205	48	3	82	−683	765
1973	110	114	110	90	121	706	374	32	242	−1,113	−2,301	1,188
1974	110	114	108	100	112	288	468	47	−124	−3,771	−5,259	1,488
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	84	115	−31	−106	1	38	123	−67	190
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	82	116	−7	−42	6	−13	−109	−284	175
4th qtr.	107	111	108	83	123	18	7	24	−6	−17	−209	192
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	89	127	279	146	11	32	−184	−354	170
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	86	113	191	61	−9	163	−209	−401	192
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	91	120	102	68	6	22	−229	−569	340
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	125	134	99	24	25	−491	−977	486
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	99	111	−249	−100	8	−73	−935	−1,279	344
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	100	107	193	138	42	11	−955	−1,316	361
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	99	118	240	299	−27	−28	−830	−1,210	380
4th qtr.	111	116	107	103	112	04	130	23	−34	−1,051	−1,454	403
1975 1st qtr.	111	116 p	108	96	98	−79	51	−35	−65	−342	−716	374
2nd qtr.										−116 p	−476 p	360 p
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.2	+2.7	+1.9	N/C	−6.7							
on a year earlier	+2.8	+2.2	−3.6	+3.1	−11.0							

	Index of industrial production: Total all industries	Index of industrial production: Total manufacturing industries	Personal expenditure: Retail sales	Personal expenditure: Cars: new registrations	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: Index‡	Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Labour: Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Trade§: Exports	Trade§: Imports
				monthly averages									totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.5	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,801	8,528
1972	102.6	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,147	9,830
1973	110.2	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2*	115.5	581	2.6	304	11,512	13,813
1974	106.4	107.9	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.5	572+	2.5+	298+	15,589	20,848
1973 3rd qtr.	111.1	111.5	110.6	143	180.2†	9.2	150.9	124.2	118.5	555	2.4	334	2,991	3,560
4th qtr.	109.8	110.5	112.0	119	186.8†	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	494	2.2	361	3,048	4,025
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	106.0	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,500	4,779
2nd qtr.	108.0	109.6	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	311	3,900	5,216
3rd qtr.	108.7	110.3	111.0	109	110.2	17 0	212.9	156.1	143.9	592	2.6	306	4,161	5,371
4th qtr.	105.3	106.1	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,029	5,482
1975 1st qtr.	104.5	105.5	111.5	106	122.0	20.3	220.6	176.0	163.2	701	3.1	..	4,571	5,287
2nd qtr.				90 p	133.6	24.3	225.4	186.2		814	3.6	166	4,390	4,866
1974 July	109.3	110.8	109.2	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.8	576	2.5	317	1,337	1,769
Aug.	109.1	111.2	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.5	597	2.6	301	1,378	1,787
Sept.	107.7	109.0	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.3	603	2.7	301	1,446	1,816
Oct.	106.7	107.1	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,347	1,841
Nov.	106.2	107.3	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,296	1,896
Dec.	102.9	103.8	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	158.0	..	..	..	1,386	1,745
1975 Jan.	105.0	106.8	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,571	1,856
Feb.	105.0	106.4	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	705	3.1	192	1,451	1,765
Mar.	103.4	103.3	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	722	3.2	186	1,549	1,666
Apr.	102.0	102.6	120.2	89	129.1	21.7	222.9	182.5	169.2	760	3.3	173	1,364	1,655
May	101.2	101.5	102.5	90	134.5	25.0	225.8 p	187.3 p	175.2	817	3.6	156	1,586	1,602
June				91 p	137.1	26.1	227.5 p	188.8		864	3.8	141	1,440 p	1,609 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−2.0	−3.0	−1.2	−15.4	+9.5		+2.2	+5.8	+7.0	+16.0		..	+1‡	−8‡‡
on a year earlier	−4.5	−5.8	+2.7	−13.7	+24.3		+5.5	+25.1	+32.8	+47.3		−49.5	+15‡	−6‡

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate. ‡ Latest 4 months on previous 3 months and on 4 months on year earlier.

Index of retail prices for June

The index of retail prices for all items for 17 June 1975 was 137.1 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 1.9 per cent on May (134.5) and of 26.1 per cent on June 1974 (108.7).

The rise in the index in June was due to higher prices for potatoes, electricity, cigarettes, alcoholic drink and second-hand cars, higher rates and water charges in Scotland, and higher prices or charges for some other goods and services.

It is estimated that the Budget increases in indirect taxation accounted for an increase of about ¼ per cent in the June index compared with May, making the full effect of the Budget increases about 2¾ per cent. In the comparison of the June index with June 1974 the Budget measures account for an increase of about 3¼ per cent.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

	All items			All items except seasonal food		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1975						
January	119.9	+2.6	+19.9	120.5	+2.6	+ 9.5
February	121.9	+1.7	+19.9	122.5	+1.7	+11.1
March	124.3	+2.0	+21.2	124.8	+1.9	+11.9
April	129.1	+3.9	+21.7	129.4	+3.7	+13.8
May	134.5	+4.2	+25.0	134.8	+4.2	+16.6
June	137.1	+1.9	+26.1	137.1	+1.7	+16.8

TABLE 2

	Indices (15 January 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	13 May 1975	17 June 1975	
All items	134.5	137.1	+1.9
All items excluding food	135.0	137.5	+1.9
Food	132.7	135.9	+2.4
Seasonal food	129.4	140.3	+8.4
Other food	133.8	135.2	+1.0
Alcoholic drink	137.3	139.7	+1.7
Tobacco	152.6	158.4	+3.8
Housing	126.6	128.7	+1.7
Fuel and light	144.0	151.4	+5.1
Durable household goods	131.7	133.3	+1.2
Clothing and footwear	123.8	125.1	+1.1
Transport and vehicles	142.5	144.6	+1.5
Miscellaneous goods	136.3	137.7	+1.0
Services	135.8	138.0	+1.6
Meals out	129.9	132.3	+1.8

Retail sales: provisional estimates for June

Volume

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in June is 105 (1971 = 100), indicating a rise of 2-3 per cent from the low May level.

Sales in April and May were influenced by the announcement in the April Budget of the higher rate of VAT, effective from 1 May, and by the increases in Excise Duties.

In the second quarter of 1975, the total volume of sales is estimated to have been about 2 per cent below the level in the first quarter.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the *provisional* estimate of the value of total retail sales in June shows a rise of 21 per cent compared with June 1974. In the first half of 1975, the value of sales was 23 per cent above the corresponding period of 1974.

	Retail sales: Volume Seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Retail sales: Value Not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier	
1974	1st quarter	109.8	1st quarter	+11
	2nd quarter	107.3	2nd quarter	+15
	3rd quarter	111.0	3rd quarter	+18
	4th quarter	111.6	4th quarter	+18
1975	1st quarter	111.5	1st quarter	+22
	2nd quarter	108.9 (prov.)	2nd quarter	+24 (prov.)
1974	March	110.0	March	+9
	April	107.9	April	+16
	May	105.6	May	+14
	June	108.2	June	+15
1975	March	109.4	March	+21
	April	120.2	April	+33
	May	102.5	May	+19
	June	105.0 (prov.)	June	+21 (prov.)

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest ½ per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimates was published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 February 1974.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for June will be published in a press notice on Monday, 11 August 1975.

Retailers' stocks in May

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of Table 1, the level of stocks at book values in May was 10 per cent higher than a year earlier but at constant prices it was 11 per cent lower.

The value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted (Table 2) rose in May following the substantial fall in April. The fall reflected the marked rise in the volume of retail sales in April. Sales fell back sharply in May, and the estimates suggest that only a limited amount of stockbuilding occurred.

Note: The statistics now being given in Table 2 were introduced in an article in the issue of 28 March 1975. The article also gave figures back to 1966 for both Table 1 and Table 2.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*

(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At book values:												
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	97	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	103	105	102	102	105	114	120	107
1973	103	106	110	108	110	113	112	113	117	127	135	124
1974	120	121	126	130	134	135	134	133	138	150	159	143
1975	138	140	147	143	147							
1972	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*8*	*9*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	*21*	*22*	*19*	*20*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*16*
1975	*15*	*16*	*16*	*10*	*10*							
At constant (1970) prices:												
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	100	107	113	100
1973	97	99	102	109	110	112	110	109	113	120	126	114
1974	109	107	111	111	112	111	109	107	109	116	120	107
1975	101	101	104	99	100							
1972	—	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*2*	—
1973	*2*	*2*	*3*	*9*	*10*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*12*	*12*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*9*	*8*	*2*	*2*	*-1*	*-1*	*-2*	*-3*	*-4*	*-5*	*-7*
1975	*-7*	*-6*	*-6*	*-11*	*-11*							

1 The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 was £1,899 million.
2 With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book values series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted — £ million

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1971	−13	−6	−13	3	−17	17	−6	4	10	21	−8	4
1972	−7	3	−12	12	4	22	−15	14	−12	10	9	−25
1973	20	8	4	107	21	35	9	−1	14	−2	13	14
1974	−10	−60	−3	8	19	−16	12	−32	−8	−8	−3	−23
1975	−30	−26	−9	−81	29							

See footnote 2 to Table 1.

Regional selective assistance

The table below shows, on a regional basis the applications received, and offers made, under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 for the months of April and May.

APRIL 1975

Assisted Area	Applications received No.	Offers made No.	Offers made Value (£000)
Scotland	27	18	2,344
Wales	8	8	954
Northern	24	18	1,204
North West	45	16	438
Yorkshire/Humberside	15	22	561
South West	2	3	25
East Midlands	4	3	43
West Midlands	—	—	—
Total	125	88	5,569

MAY 1975

Assisted Area	Applications received No.	Offers made No.	Offers made Value (£000)
Scotland	11	24	2,023
Wales	17	8	3,550
Northern	21	9	194
North West	20	10	169
Yorkshire/Humberside	5	10	213
South West	3	2	44
East Midlands	6	5	101
West Midlands	—	—	—
Total	83	68	6,294

Northern Ireland index of industrial production

The provisional index of production for May is 160, (1963 = 100), 2 points higher than April 1975. The manufacturing industries index at 161 is 5 points higher than April 1975. Comparisons are not possible with May 1974 which reflected a severe cut in production in all industries due to strike action.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups are: textiles 224, clothing 128, engineering and metals 123, food, drink and tobacco 126, timber and furniture 158, mineral products 190, other manufacturing industries 252, gas, electricity and water 196.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

Index of industrial production for May

The provisional estimate for the total index of industrial production in May 1975 is 101.2 and for manufacturing alone it is 101.5 (1970 = 100).

Industrial output has continued to decline in recent months with a more marked fall in the output of manufacturing industry.

It is provisionally estimated that the average level of the all-industries index in the three months to May was 2 per cent below its level in the preceding three months; the fall in the index of manufacturing alone was 3 per cent. These comparisons are, however, affected by the unusually low level in December when changed holiday patterns are thought to have contributed to a fall in output. The index numbers in this article and in the table are all seasonally adjusted. The seasonal adjustment process is designed to remove annually recurring month-to-month variations due, for example, to the incidence of holidays. The adjustments, however, can in general only be derived from analysis of past experience, and may not be completely appropriate if holiday patterns change sharply. It is thought that the introduction of a public holiday on New Year's Day led to a tendency for more industrial plant to be shut down in the last week of December. The seasonal factors currently used for December do not reflect to any significant extent any change in holiday pattern due to the introduction of a New Year's Day public holiday. Any fall in output due to this change would, therefore, largely be reflected in the relatively low seasonally adjusted index numbers for December 1974. An adjustment has been made, however, in the January index to allow for the direct effect of the public holiday on New Year's Day itself.

The use of series which measure deliveries rather than production resulted in the published all-industries index understating the level of output by about 1 per cent in the third quarter of 1974 and by about ¼ per cent in both the fourth quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975. Many of the series used in compiling the index of production, in particular for manufacturing industry, measure deliveries rather than production. Deliveries and production in a month may differ because of movements in stocks. While this distinction is generally not important in interpretation it can be significant in periods when output is interrupted and during the subsequent recovery.

On a longer-term comparison, the all industries index in the latest three months was about 8 per cent below the level in August-October 1973, before the miners' dispute started; the corresponding fall for manufacturing industry was about 9 per cent.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1971	100.5	99.7	99.7	100.7	100.1	101.7	103.4	102.2	99.4	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	99.3	94.0
1972	102.6	84.0	102.3	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.1	100.0	95.0	93.1	110.3	91.8	103.7	95.7
1973	110.2	93.6	110.9	109.3	106.4	114.0	110.0	121.6	108.0	103.5	102.1	125.9	95.1	105.0	103.5
1974	106.4	83.6	108.0	110.0	104.7	118.7	106.1	128.0	105.9	104.0	105.0	120.6	95.6	98.5	104.3
1973 3rd qtr.	111.1	94.7	112.0	110.2	105.9	117.1	115.2	123.4	109.3	104.8	102.4	125.2	95.7	107.5	106.3
4th qtr.	109.8	84.1	110.9	109.0	106.0	114.0	110.7	124.2	108.1	104.9	101.7	126.0	96.4	103.6	102.6
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	58.0	106.0	114.4	109.3	122.9	101.8	126.7	101.9	100.5	100.4	120.1	85.7	92.5	99.5
2nd qtr.	108.0	90.5	109.6	110.2	106.0	117.0	110.7	128.0	106.8	104.4	108.0	119.1	97.4	100.3	107.1
3rd qtr.	108.7	93.0	110.3	109.3	104.3	117.5	106.4	133.0	108.9	105.2	106.5	124.4	98.7	103.7	106.9
4th qtr.	105.3	93.0	106.1	106.1	99.2	117.5	105.5	124.2	106.1	105.9	105.1	118.9	100.5	97.5	103.6
1975 1st qtr.	104.5	94.2	105.5	110.5	104.2	120.8	94.1	120.9	106.5	105.9	103.5	119.7	101.1	100.7	100.7
1974 Apr.	107.5	89	109.3	110	105	120	111	131	105	103	107	118	97	97	107
May	107.6	91	108.8	112	108	118	115	127	107	105	108	119	97	102	106
June	108.8	92	110.6	108	106	113	106	126	108	105	109	120	98	102	108
July	109.3	94	110.8	109	105	117	98	132	109	105	107	124	97	105	110
Aug.	109.1	93	111.2	109	104	118	114	132	110	105	106	125	99	108	107
Sept.	107.7	92	109.0	109	104	117	107	135	107	106	106	124	100	98	104
Oct.	106.7	93	107.1	106	99	118	109	129	107	106	105	120	100	98	105
Nov.	106.2	93	107.3	106	100	115	108	125	107	106	105	119	101	101	107
Dec.	102.9	93	103.8	106	98	120	100	119	104	106	105	118	100	93	99
1975 Jan.	105.0	93	106.8	113	103	129	101	125	108	108	105	120	102	104	102
Feb.	105.0	94	106.4	111	105	121	93	123	107	106	104	120	101	102	99
Mar.	103.4	96	103.3	108	105	113	89	114	105	105	102	119	101	96	101
Apr.	102.0	93	102.6	107	98	122	91	115	104	105	102	119	100	97	108
May	101.2	91	101.5	109	102	119	94	111	102	105	107	121	101	87	106
Dec.-Feb. (av.)	104.3	93	107.3	110	102	123	98	122	106	106	105	119	101	100	100
Mar.-May. (av.)	102.2	93	102.5	108	102	118	91	113	104	105	104	120	101	93	96

	Manufacturing industries (continued)													Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.							
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1971	91.2	89.8	95.4	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.3	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.7	102.9	103.9
1972	91.0	89.4	95.7	104.6	103.0	104.5	107.8	114.2	113.6	115.1	113.5	102.6	104.2	104.5	111.2
1973	99.4	97.3	106.1	110.0	108.6	101.0	114.4	126.5	124.8	129.1	132.6	112.1	116.5	107.2	117.8
1974	91.5	87.7	103.5	103.5	100.4	96.3	110.8	117.8	109.4	130.8	112.4	109.4	113.8	98.1	118.6
1973 3rd qtr.	100.0	97.2	108.7	109.0	106.3	99.9	115.7	128.2	124.5	134.0	132.6	114.8	116.6	107.4	117.4
4th qtr.	98.9	97.7	102.5	108.9	106.3	99.0	115.6	126.4	122.4	132.7	129.5	112.8	117.6	105.4	120.6
1974 1st qtr.	89.2	84.4	104.1	99.8	98.8	96.3	102.3	117.9	106.0	136.4	116.8	108.2	112.2	101.6	107.5
2nd qtr.	91.2	86.2	106.8	108.6	106.3	100.8	114.5	121.4	115.4	130.8	117.0	111.5	118.3	99.3	117.9
3rd qtr.	95.5	92.4	105.4	105.6	101.7	95.5	115.2	117.2	109.6	129.1	110.2	111.1	117.4	98.1	121.2
4th qtr.	90.2	87.8	97.6	99.9	95.0	92.5	111.2	114.5	106.6	126.7	105.8	106.9	107.2	93.3	127.7
1975 1st qtr.	87.6	84.8	96.4	98.4	92.6	94.3	111.0	116.2	106.6	131.3	111.7	100.9	102.2	94.5	119.4
1974 Apr.	92	87	106	109	108	99	114	123	116	135	118	111	117		116
May	85	79	104	105	103	99	111	121	116	129	114	112	117		121
June	97	93	110	111	108	104	118	120	114	129	119	112	121		118
July	96	95	102	107	102	96	118	117	112	124	110	113	118		124
Aug.	102	100	110	107	104	95	115	119	108	135	111	111	111		118
Sept.	88	83	104	103	99	95	113	116	108	128	110	110	124		121
Oct.	87	83	101	103	99	93	111	114	105	128	104	109	114		137
Nov.	91	86	105	102	97	93	113	116	107	129	107	108	111		128
Dec.	92	94	87	95	89	92	109	114	108	123	106	104	96		119
1975 Jan.	90	85	102	97	90	94	112	116	109	126	108	101	105		115
Feb.	88	85	96	99	93	94	112	117	107	133	117	104	104		118
Mar.	86	84	91	99	95	95	109	116	104	134	110	98	97		126
Apr.	78	74	91	97	92	95	106	109	106	115	120	100	100		121
May	75	70	91	99	94	95	108	108	107	112	113	99	105		122
Dec.-Feb. (av.)	90	88	95	97	91	93	111	116	108	127	110	103	102		117
Mar.-May. (av.)	80	76	91	98	94	95	108	111	106	120	114	99	101		123

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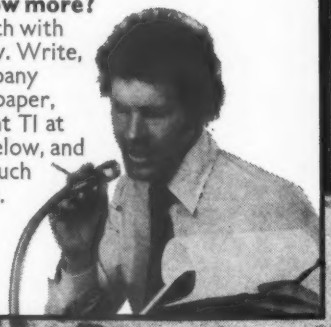

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Wholesale price indices in June

Output prices

For the second successive month, the provisional price index for the output of manufactured goods other than food, drink and tobacco increased by less than 1 per cent to 193.5 (1970 = 100). The increase resulted from a wide range of small price rises, with no individual sector making a significant contribution.

A similar increase of ¾ per cent, to 198.9, in the provisional index for the products of the food manufacturing industries was mainly due to higher prices for bacon curing and meat products. This is the third successive month in which the index for this sector has risen by less than 1 per cent.

The index for the home sales of all manufacturing industry showed a similar increase, after the sharp rise in May largely caused by the Budget increases in revenue duty. Excluding this effect, the index rose in the second quarter of 1975 by about half the 7 per cent increase it showed in the first quarter.

Few individual sectors of industry showed significant changes in June. In the engineering and allied industries further, but smaller, price increases for passenger cars contributed to a 1 per cent rise,

TABLE 1 Price index numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1974			1975		1974			1975					
		2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr. p	Jun.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May p	Jun. p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	213.7	212.9	222.1	220.9	225.4	211.7	223.8	222.5	222.1	218.8	221.9	222.9	225.8	227.5
	†Materials	221.2	219.7	228.2	225.9	228.5	218.8	229.8	228.3	227.8	223.9	225.9	226.8	228.4	230.2
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	142.7	147.9	164.2	173.3	195.8	144.0	165.1	166.2	167.2	169.5	183.3	185.7	200.9	200.9
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries:	231.2	230.7	237.3	237.3	244.0	229.9	238.2	236.7	237.4	236.1	238.5	239.9	245.1	247.1
	†Materials	243.7	242.4	247.7	246.5	250.9	242.0	248.8	246.7	247.5	245.7	246.4	247.6	251.5	253.6
	Materials and fuels purchased by Selected Broad Sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	172.1	171.5	187.1	186.7	187.8	169.2	189.7	189.7	188.8	182.7	188.6	189.0	186.8	187.6
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	167.2	165.7	181.1	184.1	186.6	164.1	183.9	183.9	184.5	180.0	187.9	187.8	185.7	186.4
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	214.1	219.3	227.3	230.9	233.3	214.6	227.0	227.8	230.8	230.5	231.3	231.9	234.0	234.1
311 and 312	Steel industries	172.3	183.9	200.4	210.7	225.9	174.1	200.8	203.0	208.7	212.3	211.1	223.8	226.5	227.5
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	177.7	181.2	184.0	197.6	205.9	179.6	184.5	183.9	193.6	197.4	201.7	204.1	206.1	207.4
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	178.9	165.9	163.9	171.0	176.5	174.2	164.8	163.4	168.2	170.3	174.4	175.8	176.8	177.0
361	Electrical machinery industry	177.3	174.0	173.7	184.4	191.6	176.6	174.4	173.2	181.3	183.5	188.4	190.3	192.0	192.5
Order XIII	Textile industries	191.2	190.0	186.4	189.4	198.7	190.1	186.3	187.2	188.5	188.9	190.7	193.9	200.9	201.3
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	167.4	171.9	174.7	176.1	179.4	168.9	174.6	175.0	175.7	176.1	175.4	177.7	179.7	180.7
Order XVII	Timber industries	217.1	218.4	217.0	217.4	218.3	218.0	216.9	216.5	216.7	217.6	218.0	217.6	218.4	218.8
481 to 484	Paper industries	173.0	203.0	215.3	231.8	240.2	175.3	214.8	218.0	231.8	230.6	232.9	236.6	240.5	243.5
Order XX	Construction materials	175.6	179.8	183.9	194.7	204.4	178.1	183.6	185.8	190.8	193.6	199.6	201.8	204.5	206.8
Part of Order XX	House building materials	177.2	181.9	186.9	196.5	206.2	179.3	186.6	188.8	192.8	195.6	201.0	203.7	206.3	208.5

† Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising.

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry* of 13 June 1975.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by broad sectors of industry.

4 Firm indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Provisional indices at high levels of aggregation, Table 1 and Table 2, also include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be published if the revised indices are significantly different. These revisions will only be notified in the full version of the wholesale price index articles, ie those published in April, August and December of each year.

6 **Correspondence about wholesale price index numbers should be addressed to Statistics Division 4, Room 610, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone inquiries for price index numbers should be made to 01-215 3549 (engineering), 5216 (chemicals, steel, building materials, etc.), 3548 (textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc.), 3173 (imported commodities), 3544 Tables 1 and 2 indices.**

CHART 1 (LOG SCALE)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
(other than food, drink & tobacco)
the latest two months are provisional

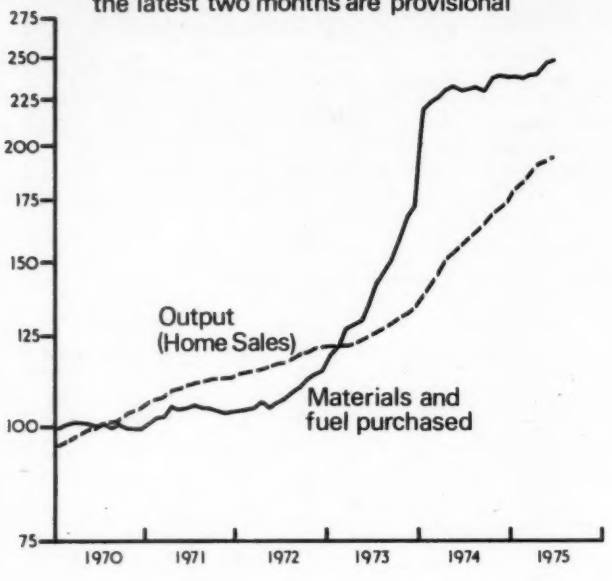
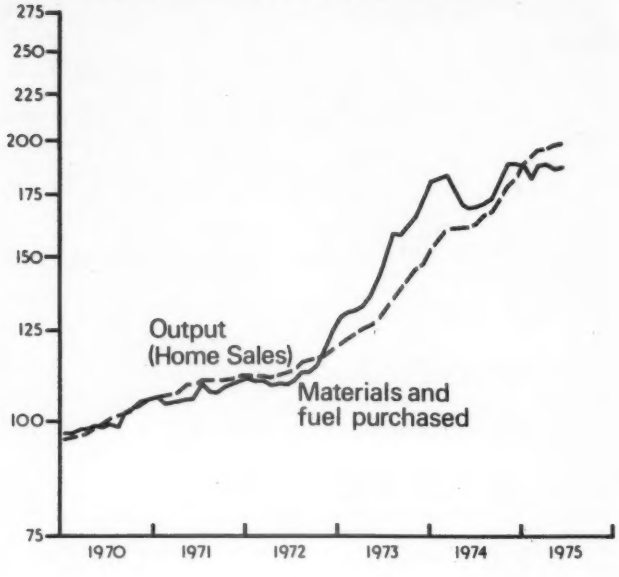


CHART 2 (LOG SCALE)

FOOD MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
the latest two months are provisional



whilst higher prices of electrical equipment for vehicles affected the index for the home sales of the electrical engineering industry, which rose by 1¼ per cent. Reductions in some public sector steel prices in response to competition from Europe produced a ½ per cent fall in the index for the output of the steel industry, despite increases in the price of steel castings.

A substantial drop in some prices of compound fertilisers largely offset a number of small increases in chemical prices, resulting in an increase in the provisional index for the chemicals and allied industries of less than ¼ per cent. In the paper industry, increases in carton prices were largely responsible for the 1 per cent rise.

Input prices

With no change in the prices of coal, gas and electricity, the ¾ per cent increase to 227.5 in the provisional index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry was attributable solely to increased prices of materials. The cost of imports rose mainly as a result of the further decline in the external value of the pound, this being to some extent countered by substantial falls in the prices of pig-lead, jute, sisal and palm oil.

The rise of ½ per cent to 187.6 in the provisional index for materials and fuel purchased by the food manufacturing industries was mainly due to higher prices for tea and home-grown potatoes. A fall in the

TABLE 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1974			1975		1974			1975					
		2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr. p	Jun.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May p	Jun. p
Orders III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	148.9	156.1	164.9	176.0	186.2	151.2	164.8	167.6	173.0	175.9	179.2	182.5	187.3	188.8
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	153.5	162.0	170.9	182.8	192.0	156.2	170.7	173.5	179.5	182.5	186.4	190.4	192.0	193.5
	Output of Selected Broad Sectors of Industry														
211 to 229	Products of the food manufacturing industries	161.0	165.6	178.0	192.5	197.4	161.4	179.1	182.6	189.2	193.0	195.4	195.7	197.5	198.9
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Products of the food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	154.7	161.2	174.3	190.7	198.6	155.7	175.7	178.9	186.0	191.0	195.2	196.5	198.8	200.5
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	150.3	158.2	67.3	177.4	186.2	152.0	167.0	169.7	174.0	177.0	181.2	184.8	186.7	187.0
311 and 312	Steel industries	179.5	186.4	39.5	220.3	227.3	182.5	189.6	190.1	214.4	220.0	226.6	227.5	227.6	226.7
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	146.9	156.3	165.7	177.2	187.4	150.4	165.6	168.3	173.5	176.8	181.2	185.7 p	187.2	189.2
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	148.7	159.2	168.2	182.2	193.6	151.4	168.0	170.9	177.8	182.4	186.5	191.1 p	193.4	196.2
Order IX	Electrical engineering	139.9	146.4	153.2	161.2	170.4	141.9	153.3	155.1	158.0	160.6	165.1	168.1	170.5	172.6
Order XIII	Textile industries	160.4	166.5	170.1	172.9	175.7	162.0	170.1	170.5	172.4	173.0	173.3	174.3	175.8	176.9
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	138.9	144.0	150.0	156.8	160.7	140.1	150.0	151.0	155.4	157.0	158.1	159.1	161.0	162.2
Order XVII	Timber industries	174.7	182.0	187.2	194.8	201.8	177.4	187.3	188.5	191.6	195.0	198.0	200.8	201.8	202.6
481 to 484	Paper industries	161.9	181.3	194.4	209.4	218.6	165.7	194.3	197.0	203.8	210.7	213.8	216.9	218.3	220.5
Order XX	New construction‡	180	190	200	209 p				200			209 p			

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (*Department of Environment*).

price of imported wheat offset higher prices for some other imported and home-produced commodities.

May's increase in wool prices was followed in June by a reduction which, together with the jute and sisal decreases, largely offset further price rises in raw cotton, mohair and dyestuffs; this kept the increase in the provisional index for materials and fuel purchases by the textile industries to less than ¼ per cent. The effect of falling exchange rates on woodpulp prices was largely responsible for increased costs to the paper industry, the index for whose purchases rose by 1¼ per cent. This industry has suffered increases in input costs totalling nearly 40 per cent since June 1974, a figure only approached by one other sector, the steel industry, in which materials and fuel costs have risen by 30 per cent. Whilst the sharp rise in fuel prices for the second quarter of 1975 has maintained the escalation of costs to the steel industry, the situation has eased in the paper industry with the second quarter showing less than half the earlier rate of increase.

Construction and house-building materials prices, both of which rose by 1 per cent, were mainly influenced by higher prices for asbestos-cement products and concrete blocks.

TABLE 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1974	1975			
		May	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May p
101	Coal	181.6	233.2	294.0	299.6	299.9
102/1	Coated limestone roadstone	189.6	226.5	230.2	231.3	243.2
103	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	138.4	165.4	167.6	177.2	177.6
240	Tobacco	113.4	118.8	119.7	122.4	150.3
262	Motor spirit. Two star (including duty)	148.2	173.3	172.4	172.4	172.4
	Medium fuel oil (950 secs – including duty)*	250.9	294.0	294.0	294.0	294.0
	Derv fuel (including duty)*	142.6	149.9	149.9	149.9	148.8
263	Lubricating oil greases	194.4	204.7	207.2	208.3	205.1
271	General chemicals	158.2	180.9	189.0	198.0	200.5
272	Pharmaceutical preparations	123.2	144.9	150.3	152.8	153.5
273	Toilet preparations	134.9	151.7	156.1	157.7	158.7
274	Paint	159.2	196.5	198.6	199.6	201.0
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	157.5	176.9	177.8	179.0	181.5
279/3	Explosive, fireworks, etc.	154.4	180.5	181.9	185.2	191.7
311/2	Uncoared steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical sheets)	184.1	220.6	220.6	220.6	220.8
	Tinplate	194.2	216.9	216.9	216.9	216.9
	Finished steel (other than sheets, tinplate, forgings and castings)	185.5	228.1	230.6	231.4	231.5
	Steel sheet piling	193.3	240.6	240.6	240.6	241.1
	Heavy steel bars and sections	194.5	237.5	237.5	237.5	237.6
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	195.2	233.9	233.9	233.9	234.0
312	Steel tubes – other than electric conduit tubes	182.4	211.7	249.3	249.3	249.3
313/2 and 313/4	Iron castings	160.2	211.6	218.9	224.6	225.7
313/4	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	165.4	209.8	237.8	237.8	237.8
321	Aluminium: Rolled	142.5	157.4	157.4	157.4	162.0
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	141.9	156.4	156.4	156.4	160.9
	Aluminium: Castings	170.1	180.9	185.2	186.9	188.2
	Aluminium: Forgings	136.4	160.5	160.5	160.5	160.5
322	Brass	206.9	117.2	118.3	119.1	116.5
331	Agricultural machinery	151.5	183.3	185.4	193.0 p	195.6
332	Metal-working machine tools	156.1	198.2	202.6	207.4 p	209.4
333	Pumps, valves, compressors fluid power equipment	148.7	182.1	186.7	190.4 p	192.0
336	Construction and earth moving equipment	147.2	172.4	176.2	181.8 p	183.4
368	Domestic electrical appliances	124.7	145.3	150.2	154.0 p	156.3
390	Engineers' cutting tools: non-diamond	128.9	153.6	155.6	158.5	159.0
	Hacksaw blades	136.7	156.4	156.5	157.1	160.7
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	127.0	138.4	147.5	148.3	148.3
	Engineers' cutting tools	129.2	152.7	155.1	157.7	158.4
391	Hand tools and implements	151.0	185.1	191.0	197.2	200.5
392	Cutlery and tableware	148.9	175.7	177.9	186.6	187.1
411	Man-made fibres production	137.0	152.5	152.2	152.1	152.3
412, 414/5 and 415	All spun man-made fibres yarns	153.2	165.5	165.5	165.8	167.9
412	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	193.5	176.8	176.7	178.5	184.6
413	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	193.2	191.3	189.1	188.2	191.0
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	166.4	189.4	189.4	189.3	189.4
414/2	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	195.6	180.7	182.1	185.3	189.6
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	138.7	150.4	150.4	151.0	150.8
419	Carpets and rugs	151.6	170.2	170.3	170.4	170.4
431/1	Leather for footwear	159.6	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5
441/449	Made-up clothing	136.1	153.4	153.7	154.5	156.8
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	147.5	166.6	170.5	171.9	172.5
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	153.2	197.8	200.2	203.2	212.0
461/2	Non-refractory goods, including building bricks	162.7	195.4	197.8	201.9	202.3
	Engineering bricks – *delivered*	199.9	223.2	223.2	231.7	231.7
463/1	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	137.9	167.6	169.4	169.4	187.9
463/2	Glass containers	144.4	187.4	190.6	191.3	200.4
464	Cement – *delivered in bulk*	135.1	172.7	200.7	202.4	202.4
471/1	Hardwood – home grown	223.8	224.8	223.6	223.1 p	224.6
471/2	Building joinery	190.9	210.4	219.4	225.3	225.2
472	Domestic furniture	151.2	176.6	177.1	178.9	182.4
473	Bedding, etc.	166.0	191.9	194.0	194.2	195.1
481	Paper and board	161.4	212.1	213.7	216.1	216.7
	Printings and writings (excluding newsprint)	154.7	208.8	209.3	211.7	211.7
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases	162.7	206.6	211.5	212.2	214.3
483	Manufactured stationery	157.2	201.0	204.8	210.8	215.1
484/1	Wallpaper	158.6	200.7	210.2	214.1	214.1
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	144.8	168.5	172.5	176.5	176.8
492	Linoleum and felt base	152.0	176.1	176.1	176.8	177.1

* Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons exclusive of rebates.

TABLE 3(b) Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom

1970 = 100

	1974	1975			
	Jun.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun. p
Hides and skins	181.6	142.5	150.0	151.4	153.6
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	123.7	148.0	148.0	151.7	154.8
Copper‡	173.1	94.0	95.0	91.4	88.6
Lead‡	188.1	177.0	159.5	143.7	122.1
Nickel refined delivered§	123.3	158.3	156.2	156.2 p	151.2
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	247.0	199.3	196.4	194.0	198.3
Zinc‡	479.4	269.3	267.7	261.2	26.70
Zinc§	257.9	281.4	281.4	281.4	281.4
Natural rubber	169.4	144.3	142.5	144.7 p	156.8

	1974	1975			
	Jun.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun. p
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	151.1	262.0	262.0	262.0	262.0
Textiles:					
Cotton, raw	214.8	166.1	180.2	190.9	194.6
Wool, raw	252.7	188.4	196.7	209.4 p	206.1
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	247.2	228.7	221.1	222.0 p	221.3
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	235.0	227.2	226.4	226.4 p	226.4
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	261.9	244.7	243.7	243.0 p	243.0
Woodpulp, imported	162.5	269.2	277.0	283.5 p	290.2

‡ LME settlement price § Producer's price. p = Provisional

TABLE 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices(1)

1963 = 100

	Primary commodities											
	Total			Agricultural non-food			Non-ferrous metals			Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals (2)		
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1973 1st quarter	156	181	144	153	177	141	174	201	161	157	182	145
2nd quarter	175	194	155	171	189	151	206	228	182	177	196	156
3rd quarter	199	225	169	203	229	172	242	273	205	202	228	171
4th quarter	221	260	197	208	245	185	267	314	238	225	265	200
1974 1st quarter	228 r	354 r	267 r	228 r	280 r	211 r	299	367	277	289 r	355 r	268 r
2nd quarter	291 r	340 r	259 r	226 r	264 r	201 r	342	399	304	295 r	344 r	262 r
3rd quarter	295	351	268	221 r	263 r	201 r	258	308	235	292	348	265
4th quarter	302 r	363 r	272 r	210 r	252 r	189 r	225 r	270 r	202 r	296 r	355 r	266 r
1975 1st quarter	291	341	251	202	236	174	220	258	195	285	334	246
2nd quarter(3)	*290*	*350*	*250*	*210*	*252*	*181*	*225*	*271*	*194*	*285*	*344*	*246*

(1) Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates.
(2) This combined index is not published as such by the UN.
(3) Projections by Department of Industry shown in italics.

Price index numbers of materials purchased

1963 = 100

1968 SIC		1975		
		Apr.	May p	Jun. p
Order III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	293.3	297.1	299.3
	†Materials	300.2	302.3	304.6
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	246.5	266.7	266.7
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries:	325.3	332.4	335.1
	†Materials	340.1	345.4	348.4
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	235.7	233.0	234.0
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	285.5	288.0	288.2
311 to 312	Steel industries	283.0	286.3	287.6
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	278.8	281.6	283.4
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	270.7	272.2	272.5
361	Electrical machinery industry	281.1	283.5	284.3
Order XIII	Textile industries	220.6	228.5	228.9
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	216.5	219.0	220.2
Order XVII	Timber industries	292.7	293.9	294.4
481 to 484	Paper industries	312.8	317.9	321.9
Order XX	Construction materials	266.1	269.6	272.6
Part of Order XX	House building materials	270.3	273.8	276.7

‡ Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising.

Index numbers of wholesale prices

The index numbers of wholesale prices relating to 1970 = 100 supersede those previously published on the base 1963 = 100. For the convenience of those who use the index numbers in long-term contracts to take account of changes in the costs of materials, the Department of Industry will continue to publish indices relating to materials used in broad sectors of industry on the base 1963 = 100 until December 1975. From April 1973 the index numbers in the accompanying table have been given the month to month movements of the equivalent index in the 1970 = 100 Series. For users of other 1973 based index numbers who wish to continue the series in this way multiplication factors will be provided on request.

Manufacturers' stocks in April

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks rose by about £10 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in April. There were probably small increases in stocks of all three assets (materials and fuel, work in progress and finished goods).

Figures from January 1975 are:

	£ million 1970 prices seasonally adjusted
January	+10
February	+30
March	No change
April	+10

(**Note:** As they are rounded to the nearest £10 million, monthly figures will not usually add to quarterly totals.)

Engineering sales and orders (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX) up to April

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders up to April 1975 are published in the accompanying table. The trend of total sales has continued on a generally level course in recent months, with both home and export sales little changed since the last quarter of 1974. Both home and export order books have revealed some further decline as revised estimates now show that the inflow of new business continued to diminish in recent months.

The seasonally adjusted index of total sales in the latest three months (February-April) at 112 was the same as in the previous three months, with only slight differences between these periods for the

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales. 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1973 July	118	138	114	123	140	118	108	134	103
August	121	140	114	125	141	119	112	139	103
September	124	141	114	128	140	118	117	142	103
October	128	139	113	131	137	117	122	144	103
November	131	135	112	133	131	116	126	144	103
December	133	130	111	134	124	114	131	143	103
1974 January	135	125	110	135	117	112	135	142	104
February	136	121	109	135	112	111	140	141	105
March	137	117	109	135	109	110	143	139	108
April	138	115	110	134	107	110	146	135	110
May	138	114	112	133	108	111	148	128	113
June	138	112	113	133	109	112	149	120	115
July	137	110	114	132	109	113	148	111	116
August	136	107	114	131	108	113	147	104	117
September	135	103	114	130	105	112	145	100	117
October	133	100	113	129	101	111	142	99	118
November	131	97	113	127	97	111	140	99	118
December	128	95	113	124	93	110	138	99	118
1975 January	125	92	113	121	89	110	135	99	118
February	123	89	113	117	86	110	133	97	118
March	120	87	112	114	84	110	131	96	118
April	118	86	112	112	83	110	129	94	117
Percentage change (b) Jan.-Apr. 1975	−6.5	−6.0	−0.5	−7.0	−6.5	−0.5	−4.5	−4.5	−0.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	130	130	102
1974	129	109	111	124	105	111	138	118	113
1973 3rd quarter	125	142	114	128	143	118	117	139	104
4th quarter	133	135	113	134	132	117	130	143	104
1974 1st quarter	136	117	109	133	109	111	143	139	104
2nd quarter	139	119	111	134	114	110	150	132	113
3rd quarter	135	104	115	131	107	114	143	99	117
4th quarter	129	96	112	124	93	109	138	104	118
1975 1st quarter	119	89	114	113	87	112	130	95	118
1973 October	127	131	114	130	130	119	121	135	102
November	131	147	116	133	142	121	127	157	105
December	133	127	109	134	123	111	130	136	104
1974 January	136	126	104	136	119	107	136	143	99
February	136	115	110	135	107	111	139	133	108
March	136	111	112	133	100	115	143	140	106
April	138	120	110	133	110	108	147	146	114
May	139	115	108	134	111	108	149	125	108
June	139	122	114	134	120	113	150	127	116
July	137	97	116	131	94	116	149	106	115
August	136	105	115	130	107	112	146	101	122
September	135	110	113	131	119	112	143	89	115
October	133	101	113	129	99	111	142	107	117
November	131	95	111	127	93	110	140	101	115
December	129	93	111	124	88	107	138	104	121
1975 January	126	90	113	121	88	112	135	95	118
February	123	95	116	118	94	114	133	98	121
March	119	83	111	113	79	110	130	92	114
April	116	87	110	110	83	107	128	97	117
Nov. 74-Jan. 75 (av.)	126	93	112	121	90	109	135	100	118
Feb.-Apr. 1975 (av.)	116	88	112	110	85	110	128	96	117
Percentage change (b)	−7.5	−4.5	0.5	−9.0	−5.0	1.0	−5.5	−4.5	−0.5

(a) All figures are provisional.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

home and export markets. Trend estimates also confirm little variation on the levels of sales since last October.

The volume of export new orders received during the three months February to April was 4½ per cent lower than in the previous three month period. Following the general decline from their high level at the end of 1973, the further fall in export new orders has brought these to a level 15 per cent below the current volume of sales. As a result, export orders-on-hand have fallen back by a further 5½ per cent in the latest three months.

Net new orders for the home market also declined by 6½ per cent between January and April. With the recent inflow 20 per cent lower than home sales, home orders-on-hand, on a seasonally adjusted basis, have fallen by 9 per cent. With both home and export order books shortening steadily, total orders on hand fell by a further 7½ per cent during the three months up to the end of April.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to April 1975. The response rate of 78 per cent to the inquiry for April is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taken into account late returns now received for January, February and March, response rates for these months were 90, 89 and 85 per cent, respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biasses, which may lead to revisions in due course.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £1.40 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering, respectively).

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in August

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in August. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
August			
4 Mon.	United Kingdom official reserves (July)	PN	HM Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (July)	PN	Bank of England
6 Wed.	UK bank's eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-July)	PN	Bank of England
	London clearing banks' monthly statement	PN	CLCB
7 Thurs.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (July)	London Gazette	HM Treasury
	CBI Industrial Trends Survey (July)	PN	CBI
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registration (July – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
11 Mon.	Central government borrowing requirement (June)	Financial Statistics	CSO/ Treasury
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (June)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (June – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (July)	PN	Department of Industry
	Index of industrial production (June)	PN	CSO
14 Thurs.	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and the terms of trade (July)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
15 Fri.	Building Societies' receipts and loans (July)	PN	BSA
	Retail prices index (July)	PN	Department of Employment
	Finished steel consumption and stocks (2nd qtr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Crude steel production (July)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
	Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product based on output data (2nd qtr.)	PN	CSO
18 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-July)	PN	Bank of England
	Sterling certificates of deposit (mid-July)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar certificates of deposit (mid-July)	PN	Bank of England
	Retail trade (July – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the motor trades (2nd qtr.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the catering trades (June)	PN	Department of Industry
	Building society house prices and mortgage advances (2nd qtr.)	PN	Department of Environment
20 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (end-July)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (June)	PN	Department of Employment
21 Thurs.	Unemployment (Aug. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (Aug. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Car and commercial vehicle production (July – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Consumers' expenditure (2nd qtr. – 2nd preliminary estimate)	PN	CSO
22 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (May)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
	New vehicle registrations (July)	PN	Department of Environment
24 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (July)	PN	National Savings Committee
28 Thurs.	Unemployment (July – final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Employment in production industries (June)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (June)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (July)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Energy trends	PN	Department of Energy
	Bricks and cement production (July)	PN	Department of Environment
	Housing starts and completions (July – prov.)	PN	Department of Environment
	House renovation grants approved (July – prov.)	PN	Department of Environment
29 Fri.	Construction – new orders (June)	PN	Department of Environment

* PN = Press Notice.

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PQ 484.1 Wall coverings for first quarter 1975

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The annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available), can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

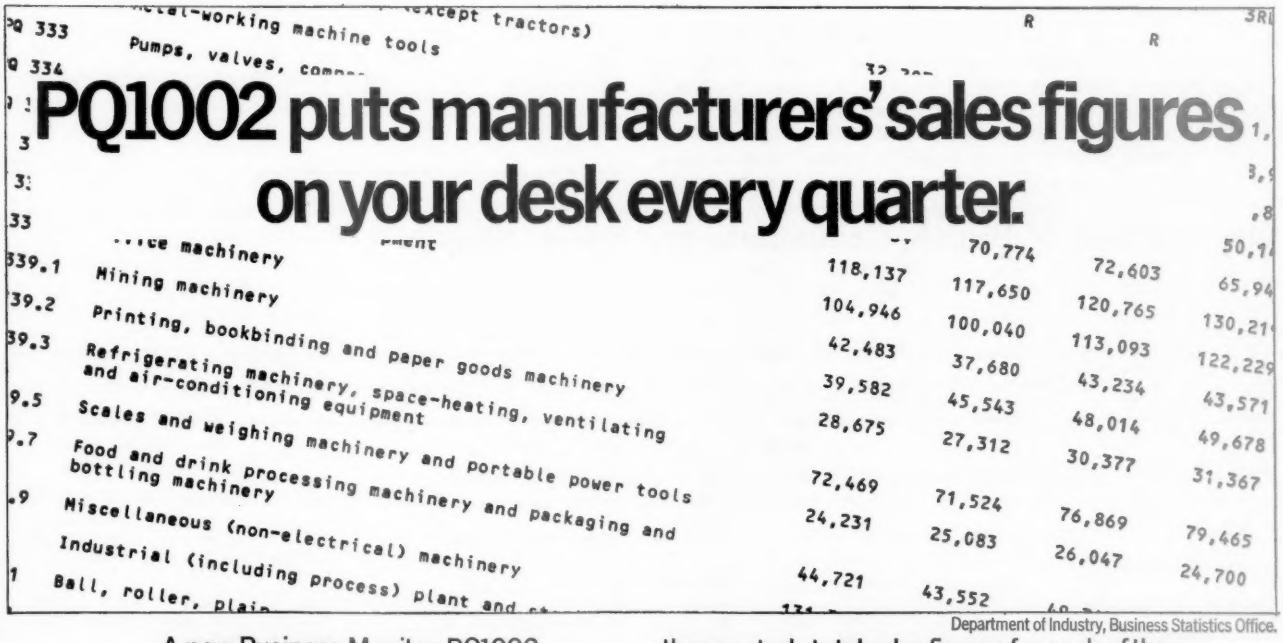
Statistics on retail trading in Wales

A statistical report on retail trading in Wales (see also *Trade and Industry*, 11 July, page 126) has been issued by the Business Statistics Office as one of 10 area analyses of information from the 1971 Census of Distribution and Other Services.

It is Business Monitor SD12 and is available, price £1.05 from Her Majesty's Stationery Office bookshops, through booksellers or by mail order direct from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Sales in the carpet industry in May

The daily rate of manufacturers' sales by value in May 1975 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 7 per cent more than in May 1974, assuming 21 working days in May 1975 and 22 working



Department of Industry, Business Statistics Office.

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days in May 1974. In the three months ended May 1975, the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 8 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago, assuming 62 working days in March-May 1975 and 63 working days in the same period of 1974. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The Wholesale Price Index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

1970 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969	93	96.6
1970	100	100.0
1971	115	104.9
1972	135	111.7
1973	166	130.2
1974	179	153.1
1974 Quarter ended March	165	141.5
Quarter ended June	186	150.6
Quarter ended September	164	158.7
Quarter ended December	202	161.5
1975 Quarter ended March	190	169.5
1974 February	175	142.0
March	192	143.4
April	183	148.4
May	181	151.6
1975 February	189	170.2
March	220	170.3
April	187	170.3*
May	195	170.4*

* Provisional.

Hosiery and other knitted goods – index of production

In the three months ended May 1975 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted, (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been 6 per cent less than in the three months ended February 1975 and 20 per cent less than in the three months ended May 1974.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1974 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100
1973	103
1974 p	100

	Including warp knitting	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 1st quarter	97	104
2nd quarter	101	103
3rd quarter	98	102
4th quarter	115	102
1974 1st quarter	91	97
2nd quarter	103	105
3rd quarter	97	101
4th quarter p	109	96
1975 1st quarter p	81	87
1973 October	124	104
November	124	104
December	96	99
1974 January	77	91
February	94	98
March	101	102
April	95	101
May	99	102
June	116	112
July	88	100
August	91	101
September	113	102
October p	121	101
November p	125	105
December p	80	83
1975 January p	73	86
February p	87	91
March p	84	84
April p	77	82
May p	76	78

p = provisional.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 18 July 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
The Tempter	BR/E 38182C/19/7/80	106	14 July	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Lifeguard Productions Ltd., London and Euro International Films S.p.a., Rome
A Steam Train Passes	BR/E 38183/19/7/80	22	16 July	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Film Australia, Sydney
Divertimento	BR/E 38184/19/7/80	19	16 July	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	N. A. Taylor, Toronto
Review No. 11 (28th Year)	BR/E 38189/19/7/80	10	18 July	Data Film Distributors Ltd.	National Coal Board
Royal Flash	BR/E 38191/19/7/80	118	18 July	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Two Roads Productions (UK) Ltd.
Movietone News 2406	BR/E 38121/19/7/80	8	18 July	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Merchant of Four Seasons	EC 38185/19/7/80	90	16 July	Cinegate Ltd.	Tango Film, Munich
And Now My Love (Toute Une Vie)	EC 38186/19/7/80	121	16 July	Avco-Embassy Pictures (UK) Ltd.	Les Films 13, Paris and Rizzoli Film, Rome
			FOREIGN		
Superargo	F 38187	87	18 July	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	G.V.-S.E.C. Film, Rome and Izaro Film, Madrid
French Connection Number 2	F 38188	112	18 July	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, New York
Ataturk (50 years forward)	F 38190	25	18 July	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Athos Film Productions Ltd., London

Note
In the amendment notified during the week ended 11 July 1975 the date of registration of the film 'The Fast Lady' should have read 11 January 1963.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	18 July 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	11 July 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	18 July 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	13 June 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	9 May 1975
insolvencies (Q)	2 May 1975
liquidity (Q)	13 June 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	20 June 1975
N. Ireland (M)	13 June 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
EEC economic indicators	27 June 1975
Energy trends (M)	4 July 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	11 July 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	11 July 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1975
household consumption (Q)	4 July 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	4 July 1975
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	11 July 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	11 July 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	27 June 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	This week
Insolvencies in England and Wales (Q)	2 May 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	13 June 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	This week
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	6 June 1975
production (M)	18 July 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	6 June 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	27 June 1975
estimated figures (M)	18 July 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	30 May 1975
Office development permits (Q)	9 May 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	18 July 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	11 July 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	11 July 1975
provisional figures (M)	This week
sales, N. Ireland (M)	20 June 1975
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	27 June 1975
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	11 July 1975
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	This week
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1975
carpet sales (M)	This week
cotton industry production (M)	18 July 1975
hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	4 July 1975
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	18 July 1975
wool exports (Q)	20 June 1975
wool output (M)	18 July 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	18 July 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	This week

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	This week
ECGD local offices	This week
Guide to Departments	11 July 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	18 Apr. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

Government Sales

Department of the Environment

5 August 1975

Location: Department of the Environment, Supplies Division stores, India Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, Wembley, Middlesex (Tel. 01-903 2508 or 01-902 4482)

Auctioneers: Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell, 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (tel. 01-248 7954)

Office and miscellaneous furniture, engineering, electrical, canteen, domestic and other equipment, etc.
Catalogue: direct from auctioneer, price 10p each.

Ministry of Defence

30 and 31 July 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Ordnance Storage Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts.

Auctioneers: Walker, Walton and Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (tel. 0602 54272)

Vehicles and plant including 420 saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans (including 250 Morris Mini and Minor 1000 saloons and travellers), 230 Land Rovers, 41 motor cycles, 250 commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC and Scammell. 50 trailers (10 cwt to 20 ton), refuellers, fire tenders, two Leyland breakdown trucks with Hyd telescopic recovery cranes. Loading shovels, tractors and angle-dozers by Bobcat, Caterpillar (D7) by Case and Vickers. Mobile cranes by Coles, Jones, Neals, Staffa and Taylor, fork-lift trucks (2,000 to 17,920 lb lift), GMC amphibious DUKWS, graders by Blaw Knox and Galion, six Bedford RL vans fitted with diesel generators, three Fordson Super Major tractors with Morewear Goose 6 cu. yd. dump trailers. The majority of the vehicles are offered as single lots.

6 and 7 August 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison and Hetherington (Dept L), Bonderway Mart, Rosehill, Carlisle CA1 2RS (tel. 0228 26292)

130 motor vehicles including Morris ambulances, Bedford, BMC, Commer, Ford and Morris vans, Bedford Dormobiles, Morris and BMC Mini saloons, Land Rovers, Leyland cargo truck, Bedford tipper trucks fork-lift trucks, Scammell trailers, etc. Tube-bending machines, tinsmiths folding machines, lifting gear, grinding wheels, ratchet jacks, bolt croppers, wrenches, spanners, pliers, axes, drills, vices. Test sets, receivers, amplifiers, capacitors, modulators, rectifiers, resistors, inductors, actuators, distribution boards, floodlights, batteries, electronic valves. Oscilloscopes, artificial horizons, stop and pocket watches, aircraft clocks and clinometers. Service clothing, web equipment, textiles, furniture, wooden boxes, metal containers, oxygen equipment, aerial equipment, aluminium bars, sheets and tubing, steel sheets, rods and tubes, photographic equipment, typewriters, laboratory equipment, paint, and a large quantity of other miscellaneous stores.

9 August 1975 Household Furniture

Location: RAF Debden, Saffron Walden, Essex

Auctioneers: Fenn, Wright, Garrod, Turner (Dept. L), 146 High Street, Colchester, Essex (tel. 0206 46161)

The sale which will be held in Hangar No. 1 comprises various items of household furniture which will be sold as single or small lots.

13 August 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Lido Hall, Worthy Lane, Winchester, Hants.

Auctioneers: Richard Austin and Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7AX

The lots which are lying at various depots in Hampshire include four crawler tractors, a 6-ton mobile crane, three vehicles, 35 machine tools. Air and steam compressors, earth augers, fork lift truck and pallet transporter. Electric motors, electrical, wireless and MT spares, kitchenware, tools, tyres, hand operated cranes, watches, paint, fire buckets, and wooden boxes. 275 lots of furniture including bookcases, bureaux, chairs, tables and wardrobes, 285 lots of textiles comprising blankets, boots, carpets, jerseys and rags.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

British Labour Statistics: Historical Abstracts 1886–1968

This unique standard work of reference brings together all the main series of official statistics compiled by the Department of Employment and its predecessers since 1886, plus some for even earlier years. It contains 389 pages of tables and 50 pages of text and the subjects covered are wage rates, earnings, hours of work, retail prices, employment, unemployment, vacancies, family expenditure, industrial accidents, and disputes, membership of trade unions, labour costs and output per head. This will be a most valuable source-book for everyone concerned with the study and formulation of economic policies. £7 (by post £7.30)

Also available

British Labour Statistics: Year book 1972 £9 (by post £9.30)

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

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THE COPYRIGHT ACT 1956

THE PERFORMING RIGHT TRIBUNAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 5 of the Performing Right Tribunal Rules, 1965, of a further reference to the Tribunal under Section 26 of the Copyright Act 1965, by the Performing Right Society Ltd. of 29/33 Berners Street, London W1 (hereinafter referred to as the Licensing Body), the National Association of Licensed Bingo and Social Clubs of 22/25 Dean Street, London W1 (hereinafter called the First Interested Party) and the British Bingo Association of 8 Lower James Street, London W1 (hereinafter referred to as the Second Interested Party).

The further reference concerns a licence scheme of the Licensing Body regulating the terms and conditions on which it will issue licenses authorising the public performance of copyright music within its repertoire at Bingo or Tombola meetings or other premises (hereinafter called tariff 'B O'). This scheme was embodied in an Order made by the Tribunal and dated 18 March 1963 which was varied by a subsequent Order dated 24 October 1973. Apart from the Licensing Body the only other party to the references giving rise to the said Orders was the Cinematograph Exhibitiors Association of Great Britain and Ireland. This Association has now transferred to the First Interested Party, the function which it formerly exercised in relation to its member bingo clubs.

The Licensing Body and both Interested Parties have reviewed and revised the formula by which royalties should be calculated under licences issued pursuant to tariff 'B O' and have reached agreement on a new formula and, by agreement, the tariff has been revised to give effect to this new formula. The reference to the Tribunal is made jointly by the Licensing Body and the Interested Parties and they are jointly applying to the Tribunal to vary the Order dated 18 March 1963 by making an Order substituting the terms of the revised tariff 'B O' for the tariff embodied in the Order dated 18 March 1963 as amended by the Order dated 24 October 1973.

Any organisation or person wishing to be made a party to the proceedings must apply to the undersigned by the 18th day of August 1975.

The Performing Right Tribunal
Room 105
25 Southampton Buildings
London, WC2A 1AY

(A. HOLT),
Secretary

(7)

Detailed statistics of UK overseas trade

Each month the Overseas Trade Statistics give a considerable amount of detail about United Kingdom imports, exports of commodities and, for many of them, the most important countries. The information in these statistics is a summary of much more detailed information. This is derived from declarations made by traders to HM Customs and Excise under the descriptions in the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification (which has over 11,000 commodity headings); there are 199 specified countries.
The fully detailed information is not published on a monthly basis but, when circumstances allow, HM Customs and Excise can supply detailed information about trade under individual descriptions of the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classsification and with individual countries or through United Kingdom ports, either for particular months or for longer periods. A charge is made which covers the cost of the service.
Applications should be made to the Statistical Office, Bill of Entry Section, HM Customs and Excise, 27 Victoria Avenue; Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 6AL (Tel. Southend (0702) 49421, ext. 316 or 323 for Imports, or ext. 314 or 315 for Exports; Telex 99112 CUSEX Southend).

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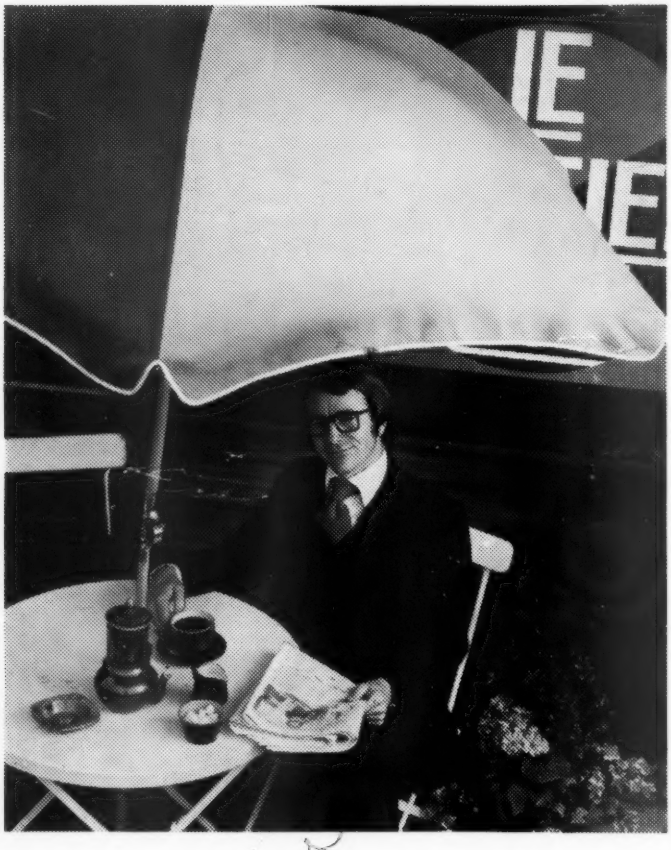

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